

Economic Gauge Falls Sharply in U.S.

Leading Indicators But Export Rise Off 1.7% in Month Is Aiding Industry

WASHINGTON — The U.S. government's main forecasting gauge of economic activity plunged 1.7 percent in November, the biggest decline in more than six years, the Commerce Department said Wednesday.

The drop in the Index of Leading Economic Indicators, the first setback since last January, primarily reflected a nosedive in stock prices. The index comprises 11 barometers of future business activity, and is designed to predict economic conditions six to nine months away. The forecasting tool has taken on a new significance since the record Oct. 19 decline in stock prices, as economists try to determine whether the country is headed for another recession.

In positive news for the economy, the gauge was revised upward for September and October to show a 0.2 percent gain in each month. The department previously had said that the index fell 0.2 percent in October after being unchanged in September.

In another report, the department said that nationwide sales of new single-family houses fell 1.2 percent in November. But in a sharp upward revision, it said that new home sales actually rose 2.1 percent in October rather than falling 1.5 percent as previously reported.

The November setback in the index of economic indicators was the largest since a 2.2 percent drop in September 1981, one of six declines in a row that year as the nation fell into a recession.

Three consecutive monthly declines in the index often, but not always, have been a signal of an impending recession. The revised gains for September and October may allay fears that a recession could be imminent.

The 2.2 percent gain in October came despite the huge negative factor of stock prices in that month's index. The weakness in stocks continued in November, with the average price for the 30 stocks in the Standard & Poor's 500-stock index declining 12.5 percent after a 12.1 percent drop in October.

In October, stock prices were one of only two indicators that were negative. In November, however, seven of the available nine indicators declined.

The fall in stock prices contributed almost two-thirds of the 1.7 percent drop. The next-largest negative factor came from changes in business delivery times on orders. That was followed by a slow-

See INDEX, Page 13



Food Shipment for Eritreans Under Way

Food destined for the starving in rebel-controlled areas of Eritrea Province in Ethiopia being loaded on camels for distribution. Separately, the Ethiopian official in charge of supplying districts stricken by famine accused Britain and other Western nations of withholding aid to put

pressure on the Marxist government in Addis Ababa. Kassa Kebede, visiting London, also called Western aid deliveries "too little and too late." He said "millions of pounds of development aid have been withheld since the Ethiopian revolution." Britain rejected the charges.

The Dollar: One Man's Poison Is Another's Meat

By Reginald Dale
International Herald Tribune
 PARIS — Not everyone groans with despair each time the dollar hits new lows, as it has most days in the past week. Some people, including many Americans, are doing very nicely.

Others are less forthcoming. Foreign exchange departments of a number of major banks are believed to have made a lot of money by playing the markets, but the banks are often reluctant to admit it. They do not like their customers to think that they take undue risks.

Bankers Trust has just revised its estimated profit upward by between \$100 million and \$225 million for this year, thanks to its performance on the foreign exchange and securities markets in the fourth quarter—the period since the mid-

In Romania, Food Lines Are Sign of Better Times

By Loren Jenkins
Washington Post Service
 BUCHAREST — In the best of times, this capital is a drab and joyless place. And winter, when the city is wrapped in coal smog and its streets slick with blackening snow, is the worst of times.

Kiosk

2 Killers Freed In El Salvador

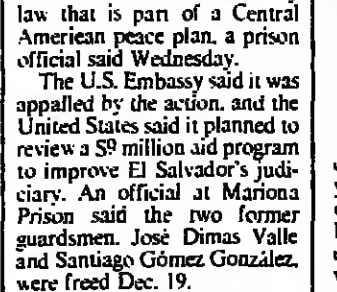
SAN SALVADOR (AP) — Two former guardsmen serving 30-year terms for the murders of two U.S. agricultural advisers and a Salvadoran official were freed under an amnesty law that is part of a Central American peace plan, a prison official said Wednesday.

Japan Will Shore Up a Key to Its Offshore Rights

By Clyde Haberman
New York Times Service
 TOKYO — Japan, always a bit self-conscious about its size, took a giant step this week to keep itself from shrinking.

Betwixt and Between: Still Strasbourg's Story

By James M. Markham
New York Times Service
 STRASBOURG, France — The city's monument to the dead is a marble statue of a grieving mother holding two fallen sons, one killed fighting for the Germans and the other for the French. To say the capital of Alsace has an identity crisis is putting it mildly.



Alain Prost, who won his 29th Grand Prix race, was one of the veterans who flourished in 1987. A sports roundup of youth and age. Page 15.

GENERAL NEWS
 ■ Palestinian lawyers voted to boycott Israeli military trials of arrested protesters. Page 6.
BUSINESS/FINANCE
 ■ Grand Metropolitan opened a bidding war with Seagram for control of Marrett, the cognac house. Page 9.

Dow close: UP 23.21
 The dollar in New York:
 DM £ Yen FF
 1.5945 1.8595 123.35 5.3975

Japan Will Shore Up a Key to Its Offshore Rights

will lose exclusive fishing and mineral rights to 163,000 square miles (about 422,000 square kilometers) of ocean.

That, as Japanese officials are painfully aware, is an area bigger than Japan itself.

Without Okinotorishima, Japan's exclusive economic zone, which extends 200 nautical miles in all directions from its coastline, would be pushed far back — to either Minami Iwo Jima, an island nearly 400 miles to the northeast, or to Okinotorishima, another island about the same distance to the northwest.

"Our mission is to conserve Japanese territory," said Masashi Waki, a civil engineer who will oversee the island rescue project for the Construction Ministry.

What Mr. Waki and his colleagues plan to do is to encase Okinotorishima's protruding rocks in large steel-and-concrete blocks that can absorb waves, and thereby keep the Japanese outpost above water. The process is not



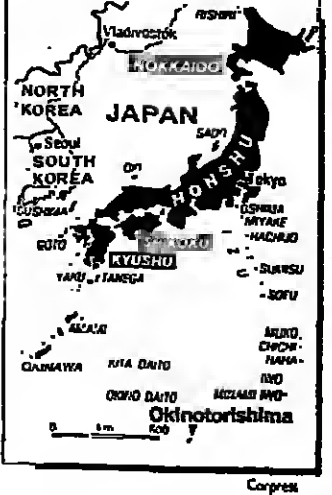
HORNS OF PLENTY — Blowing several of his own horns at once is Emelito Llanaes, one of many vendors selling New Year noisemakers on Wednesday to Manila residents.

Japan Will Shore Up a Key to Its Offshore Rights

unlike a dentist putting a cap on a crumbling tooth, only this job is expected to take three years and cost up to \$240 million.

Okinotorishima is a coral island, never inhabited, known on some maps as Douglas Reef or Farece Vela.

Japan claimed it in 1931, lost it to the United States in 1945 at the end of World War II, then regained it in 1968 when the Americans returned the Bonin Islands, 300 miles to the northeast. Anomalously, like many minuscule Japanese islands studding the northern Pacific, Okinotorishima falls under the jurisdiction of the faraway Tokyo Metropolitan Government.



See REEF, Page 6

Kabul Says Siege Is Broken

But Guerrillas Deny Convoy Has Reached Khost

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — The Afghan government said Wednesday that the first supply convoy had arrived in the eastern town of Khost after a rebel siege was broken in one of the largest battles of the war.

Afghan rebels denied the report, and Western diplomats tracking the battle from India said they were skeptical of a Soviet claim Tuesday that the siege had been broken.

The official Kabul Radio said a convoy of 155 vehicles carrying 1,200 tons of food and consumer goods had arrived in Gardez, capital of Paktia Province. The radio said another convoy of 150 vehicles with 1,600 tons of supplies left Gardez on Wednesday for Khost.

The radio said Khost residents danced in the streets and showered flowers on the arriving convoy. It said government and private vehicles were now moving normally on the 80-mile (130-kilometer) Gardez-Khost road.

Sayed Bahaudin Majrooh, director of the Afghan Information Center in the Pakistani city of Peshawar, near the eastern Afghan border where heavy fighting has been reported, said, "The Soviet-Kabul troops are still about 50 kilometers from Khost garrison."

The Gardez-Khost road is a dirt trail that Afghan rebels have riddled with hundreds of mines, Mr. Majrooh said. In the best of times, he said, especially for mechanized transportation, the road is very difficult to traverse.

Mr. Majrooh said the pro-government force had made some advances and were fighting a pitched battle near Sarana, about 35 miles from Khost.

Independent verification of the fighting was not possible. The offensive is one of the largest since Soviet troops intervened in Afghanistan eight years ago. Many ground troops are involved in the battle because the rebels have blunted Soviet and Afghan air power by using U.S. and British-made anti-aircraft missiles.

All of us who buy American products benefit, because they are much cheaper," said Richard O'Brien, chief economist at American Express Bank in London.

He pointed out, however, that a number of U.S. companies were still charging the same price in foreign currencies and taking a bigger profit in dollars — particularly if they were not sure that they would increase their sales by lowering local prices.

Mr. O'Brien dislikes the word "speculators" to describe those who have profited from the dollar's tribulations by playing the markets. In present circumstances, "hanging on to dollars is just as speculative as doing something with them," he said.

Less developed countries with See PROFIT, Page 13

In New Delhi, a Western diplomat See AFGHAN, Page 6

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Wrenchingly, Argentina Tracks Down Orphans of 'Dirty War'

By Alan Riding
New York Times Service

ASUNCION, Paraguay — According to Argentine court records, friends of Major Norberto Bianco and his wife, Susana, vividly recall the couple's delight when, unable to have children of their own, they adopted a baby girl and then a baby boy in the mid-1970s.

The babies, Carolina and Pablo, grew into bright and healthy children, with Carolina, now 11, the sensitive one, and Pablo, 10, the mischievous younger brother. By some accounts, they were lovingly cared for by their parents. The court records also show, however, that the children were not adopted but rather were kidnapped at birth from imprisoned mothers who subsequently disappeared and were presumed murdered in the Argentine military regime's so-called dirty war against guerrillas and other leftists.

After democracy returned to Argentina in 1983, a nationwide search for the children of the disappeared finally led to the Biancos. In April 1986, a Buenos Aires court ordered blood tests to verify their claim to be the natural parents of Carolina and Pablo. Instead, the 42-year-

old major fled with his family to Paraguay.

Since then, the Bianco case has turned into one of the most difficult and wrenching of the many custody battles involving orphans of the dirty war. The children seem eager to remain with their adoptive parents, while Argentina has applied great diplomatic pressure on Paraguay to extradite the Biancos.

The case also has become caught in an ideological dispute. President Raúl Alfonsín makes little effort to disguise his disapproval of Paraguay's 33 years of dictatorship, while the Paraguayan regime boasts of its identity with the outlook and methods of the generals who ruled Argentina from 1976 to 1983.

Claiming to be a victim of political persecution, Major Bianco therefore had reason to feel shielded by Paraguay's strong anti-communism. During the dirty war, he worked as a doctor in a military hospital, and although he was not among the hundreds of officers accused of human rights violations, he defends the army's behavior, which left more than 9,000 people killed or missing.

"It's one thing to analyze what happened 10 years later," he said in the small

house he rents in Asunción. "It's another thing to have lived through it. Everyone in the armed forces participated in the war. Those officers who now want to bathe in the Ganges and say they are clean are cowards and traitors."

Almost coincidentally with the Biancos, a deputy police chief, Samuel Miara, and his wife Alicia, along with 10-year-old twin boys, Gustavo and Marín, also sought refuge in Paraguay rather than undergo blood tests. And they too had proof they would be safe in Paraguay.

In April, shortly after Argentine and Paraguayan judges arrived with police

officers at the Miara home to execute an extradition order, the much-feared commissioner general of the Paraguayan police, Carlos Schreiber, showed up and ordered the judges to leave. The Paraguayan judge withdrew entirely from the case.

A few weeks later, after Major Bianco and his wife were arrested and taken to separate men's and women's prisons to await extradition, it was the wife of General Tito Velilla, then the head of military health, to step in on the couple's behalf. He went to the two prisons and demanded successfully that the Biancos be freed.

With the two couples confined to their homes, the diplomatic battle over the children escalated. Paraguay's chief prosecutor, Clotilde Jimenez Benitez, publicly opposed extradition, arguing that the Argentine court system was now riddled with leftists. Infuriated, Argentina recalled its ambassador in protest.

On Dec. 11, Paraguay bent to the pressure and a judge approved extradition of the Biancos.

Since then, while the Miaras remain enmeshed in their home newly awaiting their day in court, the Biancos have taken their case to Paraguayan public

opinion and, indirectly, to President Alfredo Stroessner by allowing Carolina and Pablo to be interviewed on television and in newspapers.

"They are our parents," Pablo said in one broadcast. "The only thing we want is not to be separated from them. Whenever I am and whenever I'm with, I'll escape to be with them."

By now, however, the Bianco children appear to have been reduced to extras in a larger drama. It is rumored that Mr. Alfonsín will attend the inauguration of a bridge linking Argentina and Paraguay early next year only if the extraditions have gone ahead. And it is known that General Stroessner is anxious to be seen publicly with Mr. Alfonsín.

The exact number of children of mothers who disappeared during the dirty war is not known, but there are believed to be several dozen. One Argentine official familiar with the issue said 46 such children had been identified by Argentine courts, with 20 cases resolved.

He said that in the cases that had been settled, some children had been returned to blood relatives, but that in other cases the adoptive parents had been allowed to retain custody over the children, with blood relatives given visiting rights.

"They are our parents. The only thing we want is not to be separated from them."

— Pablo Bianco, child in a custody dispute

Transkei Has 2d Coup In 3 Months

By William Claiborne
Washington Post Service

JOHANNESBURG — The government of the tribal homeland of Transkei was overthrown in a military coup on Wednesday for the second time in three months.

The commander of the Transkei Defense Force, Major General Bantu Holomisa, said on the Transkei radio that he had removed Prime Minister Stella Sigcau, suspended the constitution and imposed martial law on the nation's three million residents because of government corruption.

General Holomisa told the South African Broadcasting Corp. that Mrs. Sigcau was "on leave" and that he and a predominantly military junta would temporarily rule Transkei.

Mrs. Sigcau had been in office since Oct. 6, two weeks after eight cabinet ministers were forced to resign at gunpoint during an army coup that in effect removed the previous prime minister, George Matanzima, amid allegations that he had accepted \$500,000 as a kick-back on a building contract.

Mr. Matanzima had left Transkei for South Africa, reportedly for medical care, before the Sept. 24 coup.

For years Transkei has been torn by internal feuding between Mr. Matanzima and his brother, President Kaiser Matanzima, who earlier this year was banished to a remote part of the homeland after implicating his brother in corruption.

The oldest of four black "homelands" declared independent by South Africa but not recognized by any other country, Transkei is increasingly becoming a symbol of the failure of Pretoria's homeland policy, the cornerstone of apartheid's philosophy of separating blacks into tribal areas and giving them their own governments.

Although the South African government pumps about \$2 billion a year into the homelands, poverty is widespread, in contrast to the palatial housing for leaders and their relatives and lavish gambling casinos that cater to visiting whites.

Telephones in government offices went unanswered on Wednesday, and details of the coup were sketchy, but Transkei journalists reported that there was apparently no violence. The whereabouts of Mrs. Sigcau, 50, who had been minister of posts and telecommunications before being made prime minister, was not known.

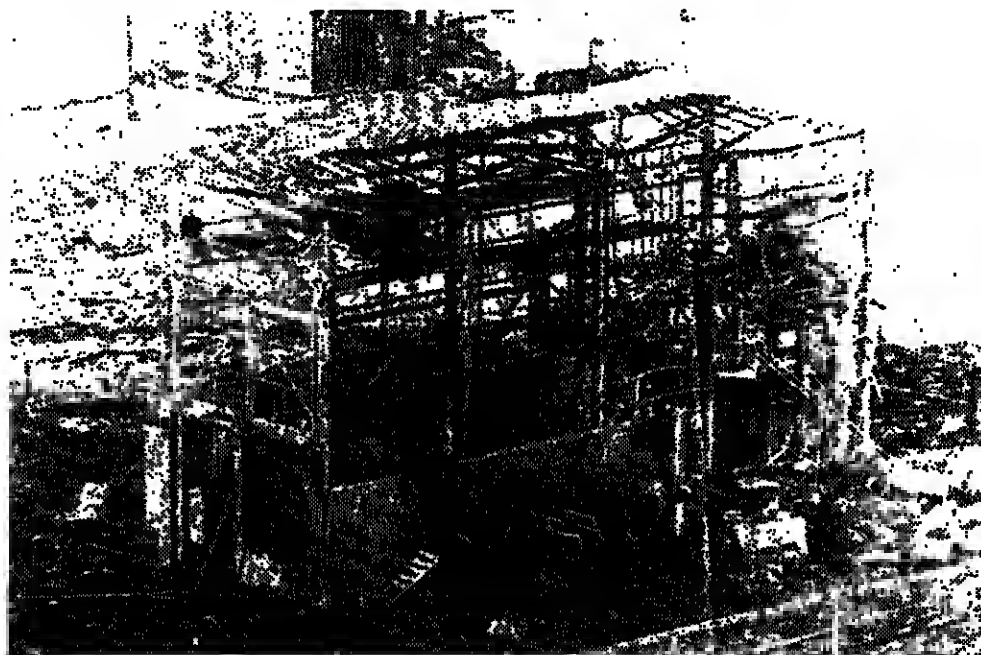
General Holomisa said on the Transkei radio that a result of law had been removed "as a result of unavoidable circumstances."

Transkei residents reached by telephone said army vehicles with loudspeakers were patrolling the streets, announcing the coup.

Roadblocks were reported to have been erected by the army throughout the 18,000-square-mile (29,000-square-kilometer) enclave, situated on the Indian Ocean coast between the port cities of Durban and East London. The South African state radio said all Transkei government employees had been sent home.

A telex message from the radio station to the South African Press Association quoted General Holomisa as saying that Mrs. Sigcau had been removed for being "involved in the corruption and bribery which we are fighting and which was practiced by the former ministers that had recently been removed from their posts in an anti-corruption purge."

For several months, the army chiefs have waged a campaign against corruption in Transkei, which a special commission of inquiry recently concluded had cost the homeland about \$22 million.



AFTER MX EXPLOSION AND FIRE — After a fire, the charred frame is all that remains of a Morton Thiokol Inc. building where work was done on a stage of the MX missile near Brigham City, Utah. Five workers were killed in the fire, which a company spokesman said had erupted during the removal of casting equipment from a loaded motor.

U.S. Urged to Replace Space Rocket Supplier

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — NASA should look for another company to build rockets for the space shuttle after the failure of a component of the shuttle's redesigned booster, a member of the House of Representatives science committee said Wednesday.

Representative Manuel Lujan Jr., Republican of New Mexico, predicted the delay from the test failure of the Morton Thiokol rocket would cause the first manned space launch since the Challenger disaster in January 1986 to be postponed until sometime after next year.

A top official of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration said: "Clearly we have missed something in our design, or the environment." However, a spokesman of the agency said the delay probably would only be several weeks.

The space agency announced

Tuesday that the next shuttle flight, which had been planned for June, would be delayed because of the failure of a redesigned rocket nozzle component in a recent test firing. NASA officials said then that it would be several days before they could determine how long the delay would be.

"If we're going to postpone from June, even if we postpone it just three months, that takes us into September, maybe October, and nobody in their right mind is going to launch just one or two months before the election," Representative Lujan said on television. "So that really puts us out of business for 1988, and that's really devastating for the space program."

Mr. Lujan, the ranking Republican on the House Science, Technology and Space Committee, said the panel has been disturbed that Morton Thiokol is the only company with a contract to build the shuttle boosters.

"We've been insisting that we have a second source, but NASA has been fighting that," he said. "Maybe now we can convince them."

The announcement Tuesday of the failure reversed a glowing assessment that the agency and the rocket contractor had made a week earlier following a cold-weather test of the redesigned booster.

It occurred as the Soviet Union was celebrating a new outer space record with the return of a cosmonaut from 326 days in orbit.

It also occurred on the same day that five Morton Thiokol workers died in an explosion and fire in an MX missile section of the company's Wasatch Operations area in Utah, where the shuttle booster test was conducted on Dec. 23.

J.R. Thompson, director of NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center at Huntsville, Alabama, said an initial redesign of the nozzle ring had proven successful in the first test firing in August, and that a further change was tried last week.

"We thought this would be an improvement even over that," Mr. Thompson said. "Clearly we have missed something in our design, or the environment."

An examination of the rocket after the two-minute test firing revealed that a large portion of the nozzle's outer boost ring was missing. Nearly 4 feet (about 1.2 meters) of the 8-foot-diameter ring was gone, and more than a foot of that material was discovered inside the motor, the agency said.

NASA was awaiting the testing by Morton Thiokol of major redesigns in the rocket, which were undertaken as a result of the explosion that destroyed Challenger and killed its crew of seven Jan. 28 last year.

The failed nozzle ring was redesigned by engineers in the period following the Challenger explosion because of a concern by NASA that nozzle joints had eroded or been pitted in previous launches.

It was not linked, however, to the Challenger explosion.

WORLD BRIEFS

6 More Blacks Die in Natal Province

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters) — A 12-year-old boy was among six persons reported killed in Natal Province, where a rising wave of black-against-black violence has touched off a rare public quarrel between two top South African black leaders. About 260 blacks have been killed this year in the region.

The struggle pits the conservative Inkatha movement of Zulus, led by Chief Mangosuthu Buthezi, and a leftist coalition of anti-apartheid organizations, the United Democratic Front. On Tuesday, Chief Buthezi hit out at Archbishop Desmond M. Tutu, whose ideology matches that of many followers of the front, although the archbishop is not a member. Chief Buthezi had accused the archbishop of being linked with the "labyrinth of intrigue" that "sets out to perpetuate the violence he now decries."

On Wednesday, Archbishop Tutu said, "Chief Buthezi appears to think that his leadership is enhanced by denigrating others." Inkatha and the United Democratic Front both oppose apartheid but are divided on the means to use to fight the system of racial separation.

Yugoslav Party Expels 45 in Scandal

BELGRADE (AP) — All 45 members of the Communist Party committee in the Bosnian town of Velika Kladusa were removed following Yugoslavia's biggest financial scandal since World War II, the newspaper Politika reported Wednesday.

The newspaper said the officials were removed Tuesday after a 15-hour meeting of the party organization in the town. Agrokromer, the food company that circulated almost \$1 billion in uncovered promissory notes before the scandal, is based in Velika Kladusa.

Politika said the town's mayor, Slobodan Mirkovic, also resigned Tuesday after being reprimanded by the party. Almost all the town's inhabitants were employed at Agrokromer, which had a work force of 14,000 before the financial scandal surfaced.

Panama to Let 4 Newspapers Reopen

PANAMA CITY (AP) — A measure passed by the Panamanian legislature would allow four newspapers and two radio stations to reopen and grant amnesty to several dozen people arrested in political protests earlier this year.

President Eric Arturo Delvalle indicated he will sign the bill, which was passed by the legislature on Tuesday. Mr. Delvalle closed the newspapers and the stations at the height of violent protests last summer against General Manuel Antonio Noriega, who is considered the power behind the civilian government.

It was not clear how quickly the newspapers and radio stations could reopen or when their property would be returned and whether it had been damaged. The newspapers closed were La Prensa, El Siglo and El Extra, all dailies, and Quiboo, a weekly.

Afghan Confirms Defection to Rebels

HONG KONG (Reuters) — The younger brother of General Najib, the Afghan leader, confirmed in an interview published Wednesday that he had defected to the guerrillas and said he was likely to seek asylum in the West.

In the interview with the magazine Asiaweek, the younger brother, Sidiq, called his brother a charlatan and a "power-mad, Nero unable to tolerate people with different opinions." Asiaweek, a weekly based in Hong Kong, said it spoke with Mr. Sidiq, 36, last month in the Panjshir Valley of Afghanistan. He defected on Oct. 22.

Jamiat, a guerrilla organization based in Pakistan, reported his defection in November, but Western diplomats in Islamabad said at the time that they were unable to confirm the report.

Strauss Sees More Trade With Soviets

MOSCOW (AP) — Franz Josef Strauss said Wednesday he expects greater cooperation in trade and arms control between West Germany and the Soviet Union, but he doesn't foresee much political change for Soviets.

Mr. Strauss, the premier of the West German state of Bavaria, spoke after three days of talks with the Soviet leader, Mikhail S. Gorbachev, Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze, and other Kremlin leaders.

Mr. Strauss said Mr. Gorbachev called the visit a "sign of a new political era."

Mr. Strauss said he did not conceal from the Soviets his reservations about the treaty signed Dec. 8 by Mr. Gorbachev and President Ronald Reagan to scrap intermediate-range nuclear missiles. "We did not hide" that the Washington treaty does not increase our security," Mr. Strauss said.

For the Record

The Turkish government of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, formed after a national election victory by his Motherland Party last month, won a vote of confidence Wednesday from the single-house Parliament. (AP)

The Dutch police announced the arrests of two suspects in the kidnapping of Gerrit Jan Heijn, vice president of Ahold NV, the food retailer. The police said Mr. Heijn was now officially presumed dead. (AP)

Prime Minister Robert Mugabe was proclaimed Zimbabwe's first executive president on Wednesday at a five-minute session of the country's two houses of Parliament. (Reuters)

TRAVEL UPDATE

Greece put into force emergency measures on Wednesday to combat smog in Athens, including restrictions on traffic cars and taxis with numbers ending in even figures would be banned from the city center on Wednesday and those with numbers ending in odd numbers would be kept out on Thursday. (Reuters)

World airline traffic rose 13 percent this year with passenger flights for the first time passing the one billion mark, the International Air Transport Association said Wednesday. But prospects for next year are less promising because of the fall of the U.S. dollar and stock market declines. (UPI)

Italian airport ground workers will resume their strikes at airports next month after a truce over the holiday period. The strikes over contract disputes are due to start Jan. 5 with an eight-hour stoppage. (AP)

Arab and Israeli visitors helped to give Egypt a bumper year for tourism, and revenue should more than double to \$2 billion, the tourism and civil aviation minister, Fouad Sultan, said in Cairo. (Reuters)

The union representing pilots of Air Inter, the French domestic airline, said Wednesday that it would call off a scheduled New Year's Eve strike so that holiday travelers could reach their destinations. (AFP)

U.S. Cardinal Disputed on AIDS Policy

By Ari L. Goldman
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The president of the U.S. Catholic Conference has insisted that the nation's Roman Catholic bishops stand by a policy paper that gave qualified support for teaching about condoms in AIDS education programs.

The statement Tuesday by Archbishop John L. May of St. Louis, Missouri, challenged a report from the office of Cardinal John O'Connor of New York suggesting that the AIDS policy was being held in abeyance and would be reviewed when all 300 bishops met in June.

Cardinal O'Connor has been a strong opponent of the policy paper, which has divided the bishops.

The conflicting statements by two influential Catholic leaders left the church's policy on acquired immune deficiency syndrome in confusion.

On Monday, Cardinal O'Connor's office made public excerpts from a letter to the bishops from Archbishop May, dated Dec. 17. The excerpts were intended to support the cardinal's position.

In a 30-page document, the bishops wrote that, although Catholics were not permitted to use condoms, it was appropriate to teach, even in Catholic schools, that the use of condoms helps prevent the spread of the disease. "Some people will not act as they can and should," the bishops reasoned.

On Monday, Cardinal O'Connor's office made public excerpts from a letter to the bishops from Archbishop May, dated Dec. 17.

The excerpts — and the conclusion that the cardinal's office drew from them — were reported Tuesday after Archbishop May's office declined to provide the full text.

A summary of the text, made public by Archbishop May, said that the AIDS policy was still in effect. In the letter, he wrote that the policy "is neither being withdrawn or temporarily set aside." He said it would be open to reconsideration by the bishops at the meeting in June only if the administrative board agreed to put it on the agenda.

Cardinal O'Connor's chief spokesman, the Reverend Peter G. Finn, said he took full responsibility for a press release that suggested otherwise. "I regret any confusion I've caused," he said.

U.S. Supercollider Sites Narrowed to 8

By Robert Gillette
Los Angeles Times Service

WASHINGTON — The National Academy of Sciences has recommended sites in eight states as finalists in the competition for the \$4.4 billion superconducting supercollider, a particle accelerator that would be the largest scientific instrument ever built.

Prompted by leaks from two members of Congress, Senator Jesse Helms, Republican of North Carolina, and Senator Phil Gramm, Republican of Texas, the academy confirmed that it has recommended to the Department of Energy eight "best qualified sites" in Arizona, Colorado, Illinois, Michigan, New York, North Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

If Congress authorizes funds for the 53-mile-long (85-kilometer-long) accelerator, it would be built and run by the Department of Energy. But its approval is by no means assured.

With all but eight of the states competing for the site now out of the running, "there's going to be the usual reluctance you get when somebody else gets the prize," said Representative Vic Fazio, Democrat of California, whose state was among the losers. "This is going to be compounded by the budget restrictions on research and education in general."

Congress appropriated only \$25 million of the \$35 million the Reagan administration requested for the civilian supercollider project in the 1988 fiscal year. No funds are provided for construction.

The Department of Energy is to select a "preferred" site by July and a "final" site in January 1989, after assessing the project's environmental impact. This timing leaves it to the next president to determine whether the supercollider will be built and, if so, when and where.

The accelerator would be an oval tunnel 53 miles in circumference, at least 35 feet (10 meters) underground. Ten thousand superconducting magnets lining the 10-foot-wide tunnel would accelerate counter-rotating beams of protons that would collide with an energy of 40 trillion electron volts, or 20 times the energy achievable with existing machines.

The resulting showers of subatomic particles, mapped and measured in detectors weighing as much as 40,000 tons, are expected to shed new light on the basic relationships between energy and matter.

President Ronald Reagan endorsed the project in January to help preserve U.S. leadership in high-energy physics into the 21st century. The collider project, and its promise of 2,500 permanent jobs, a \$250 million annual federal payroll and international prestige, has sparked intense competition among state governments and congressional delegations.

In commissioning the academy of sciences, the government's oldest and most prestigious source of independent scientific advice, Secretary of Energy John S. Herrington said in February that he wanted to avoid political considerations in selecting a site.

Reports of the committee's recommendations, however, emerged first from Mr. Helms of North Carolina, one of the eight states still in competition. In a news conference an hour later, Mr. Gramm of Texas, which also was on the final list, attributed his information to Mr. Herrington.

U.S. Quietly Expels 2 Chinese Diplomats

By Mary Thornton
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Two Chinese diplomats have been expelled from the United States after being detained last week by the Federal Bureau of Investigation because of suspected espionage, Reagan administration sources said Wednesday.

The State Department said only that the two Chinese diplomats had been asked to leave, and refused to characterize the case as an espionage incident.

The men were detained early last week after one of them, an assistant military attaché at the Chinese Embassy here, accepted what he believed were classified documents, the sources said. Because the two have diplomatic immunity, they could not be formally arrested or charged with espionage.

A State Department spokeswoman, Phyllis Oakley, said: "On Dec. 22, the Department of State asked the Chinese Embassy to arrange the departure from the United States of two Chinese diplomats. The two individuals were engaged in activities incompatible with their diplomatic status. I understand that they have left the United States."

Mrs. Oakley said that the two were the first Chinese diplomats asked to leave the United States since diplomatic relations were established with China in January, 1979. But she said the incident had not damaged relations between the two countries.

She would not provide further details on the identities of the two men or on the activities they allegedly were involved in.

Wu Zhaoguo, a spokesman for the Chinese Embassy, said:

China, but he denied there was any problem with the U.S. government. "I have no knowledge of this," Mr. Wu said. "We have two diplomats who left for China a few days ago after having finished their tenure in the United States."

He identified the two men as Hou De-sheng, an assistant military attaché, and Zhang Weichu, the Chinese consul in Chicago.

Asked about the condition of U.S.-Chinese relations after the incident, Mrs. Oakley said: "The same as they were. There is no change in the relationship."

Administration sources said Wednesday that details of the case were being closely guarded because the State Department is anxious not to damage improving relations between the two countries.

But Mrs. Oakley said the United States was not trying to minimize the incident.

"In no way are we trying to downplay it," she said. "When such a case arises, we deal with it promptly in accordance with established procedures."

The Chinese detentions come just after the Dec. 17 detention by the Federal Bureau of Investigation of Mikhail Kalitov, a Soviet diplomat assigned to the United Nations. Mr. Kalitov, who also had diplomatic immunity, was quickly expelled. That incident was also treated delicately because it came just a week after President Ronald Reagan's summit meeting in Washington with the Soviet leader, Mikhail S. Gorbachev.

Mrs. Oakley said the Soviet Union has not protested the Kalitov expulsion.

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OPINION

Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune

Signals for the New Year

In 1988 it will be hard to repair the economic damage of which the stock market crash, Black Monday, was but one reflection. Higher unemployment, intermittent exchange rate chaos, increasingly venomous trade relations and international debt default may become more marked. Economic degradation has not yet poisoned the world political scene, but that day could come.

Political circumstances in the democracies — the electoral cycle — may not permit much immediate improvement of economic policies. Modern democracy dictates that fundamental considerations are subordinated to the needs of short-term political gain.

INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE

A Way to Help Haitians

The junta that destroyed an independent election at gunpoint in a month ago hopes to legitimize dictatorship in an electoral travesty scheduled for Jan. 17. General Henri Namphy now demands that voters hand their ballots directly to his soldiers.

realistic way to support Haiti's democrats and encourage a fresh, fair vote. Already Washington has suspended \$78 million in military and non-humanitarian economic aid.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES

Exit Deus ex Machina

A striking theory proposed in 1980 ascribed the sudden demise of dinosaurs some 65 million years ago to the fiery impact of an outside asteroid. Another explanation, duller and less often discussed, rejects catastrophes from the heavens and points to gradual processes on Earth, like changes in climate and sea level, as the likely agents of extinction.

He asserts that volcanoes puff out iridium, and can erupt with the explosiveness to shock quartz particles. The high sphericity of the clay could be just a concentration effect, and the glass droplets could have been made by algae.

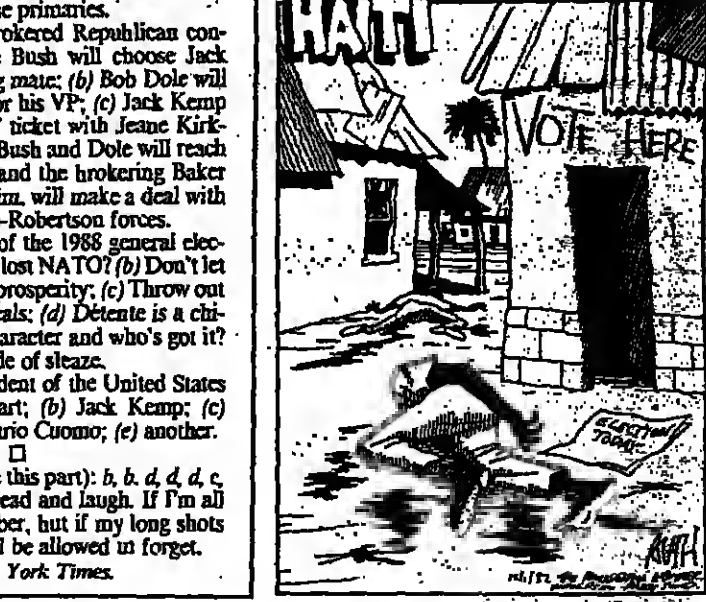
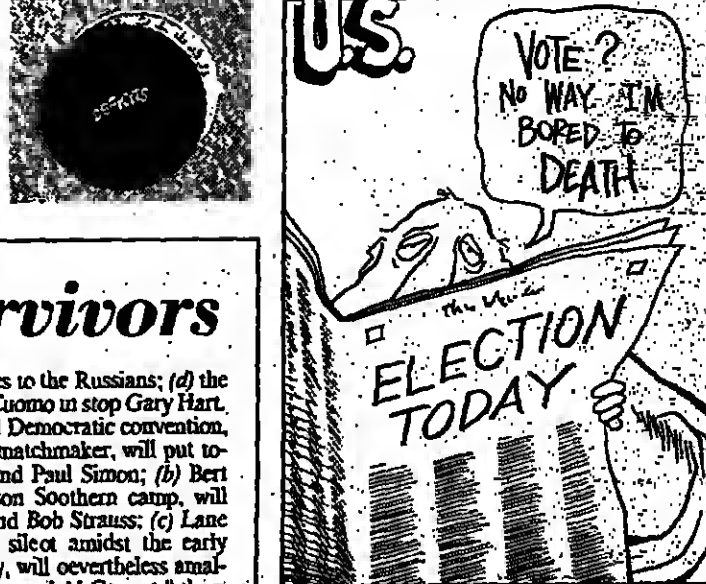
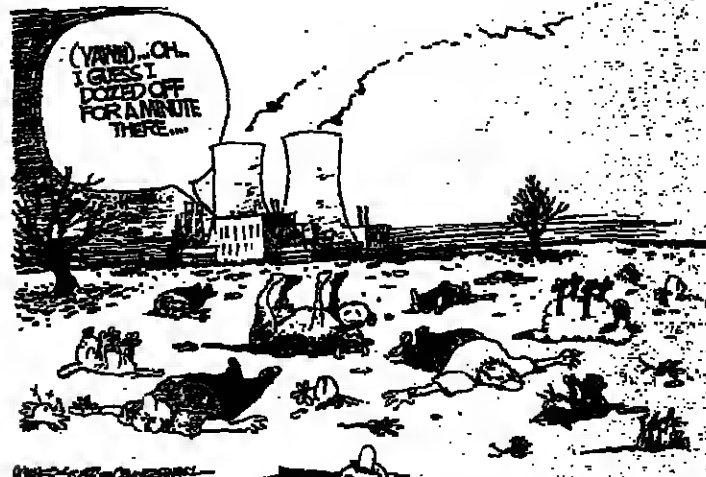
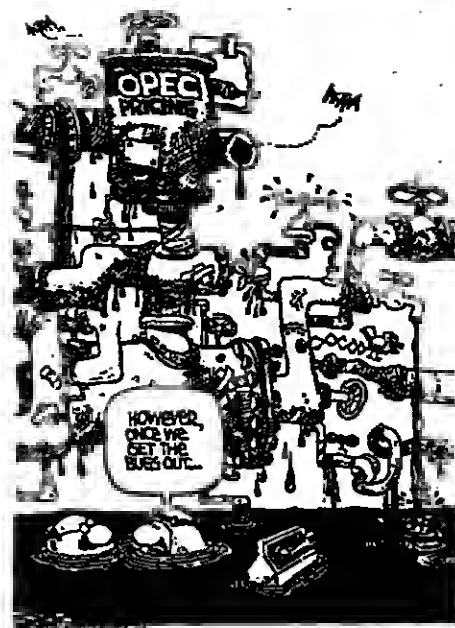
— THE NEW YORK TIMES

Other Comment

A Hemisphere in Crisis
The bald statistics of a report from an agency of the United Nations disclose the enormous economic, political, social and in the end human personal distress that afflicts Latin America and its 416 million people.

tries have not met their repayment schedules. A successful Brazilian businessman told us a story he heard from his grandfather: "If you lend money to a man and he says he will pay you back, you can believe him or not. But if you lend money to a man and he says he will not pay you back, believe him."

— The Los Angeles Times



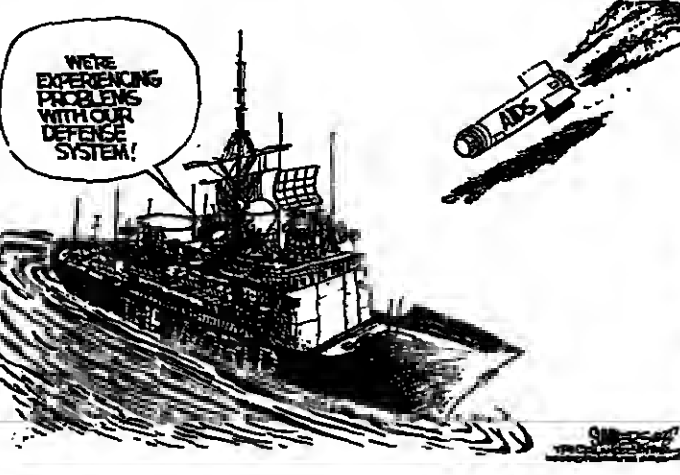
Winners, Losers and Other Survivors

By William Safire

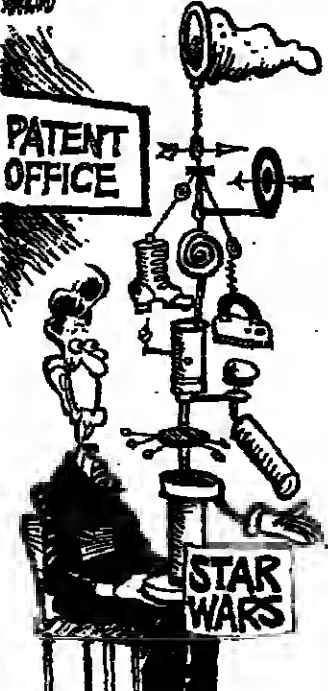
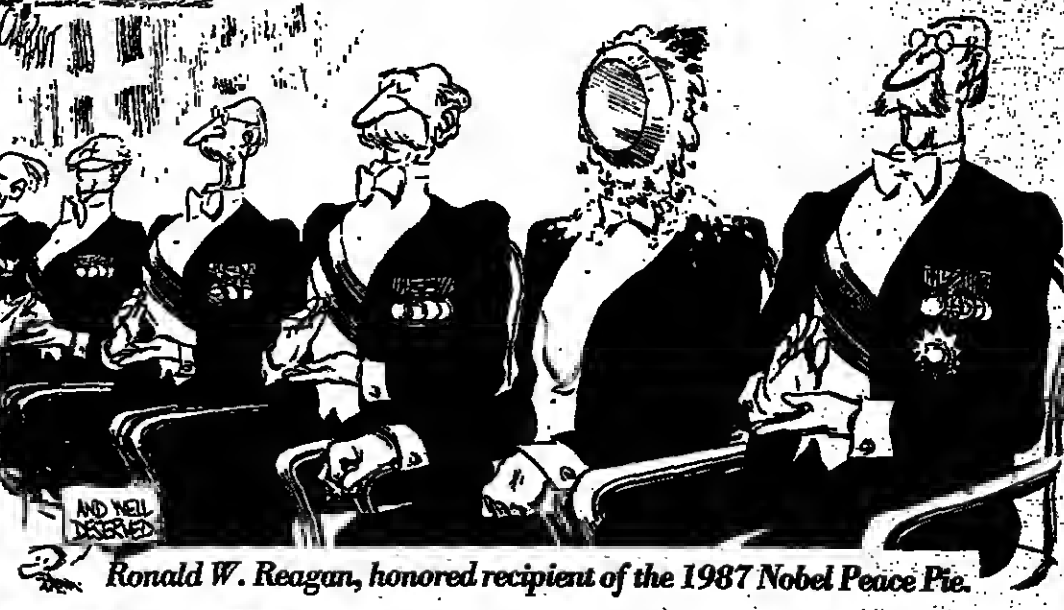
WASHINGTON — What poor prognosis in this space last year; I even predicted that the stock market would go down, and of course it has risen a bit since last year-end. This year I resolve to bet my hopes, instead of merely my expectations.

override the president's veto of trade protection; (c) rally the medium missile treaty with non-killer reservations; (d) all of these.

subsidized grain sales to the Russians; (d) the late entry of Mario Cuomo to stop Gary Hart.



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100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1887: Dull Year's Close
NEW YORK — Stocks were dull and changes insignificant (Dec. 30). Brokers are too glut to make the usual racket at the winding up of the year.

New Year. At the Piccadilly Hotel there will be 1,300 at supper, and a dance in the two ballrooms. On the stroke of twelve, the rooms will be plunged into darkness, while the Westminster chimes will be rung.

1912: The Parting Guest
LONDON — 1913 will be ushered in in most of the leading hotels here tonight (Dec. 31) by great gatherings of people who will dine, dance and make merry as they "speed the parting guest" and welcome the bright

1937: Not That He Cares
PARIS — [A reader writes:] Since everybody is having a merry time about Centigrade and Fahrenheit and freezing point in the Mailbag, I would like to know how to figure 20 degrees Centigrade into Fahrenheit.

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OPINION

A Tactic for Conservatives: Pre-Empt a New Populism

By George F. Will

NEW YORK — "I create nothing. I own it. I buy and sell what's already there." So speaks Michael Douglas portraying a Mephistophelian financier in the movie "Wall Street." In one scene he delivers a close approximation of the "greed is good" homily that Ivan Boesky once served up in a commencement address. Have we met this man before? Yes, in April 1920.

"He was 46 years old now, in April 1920, and he made nothing in particular, neither butter nor shoes nor poetry, but he was nimble in the calling of selling houses for more than people could afford to pay." George F. Babbit was created by Sinclair Lewis in an era punctuated by a crash.

Judgment upon Ivan Boesky and Michael Deaver coincided with another crash. Their cases feed the cynicism that fuels the peculiar populism of "Wall Street," the movie. And the cultural phenomenon of revulsion against certain mores of contemporary capitalism is politically potent.

Populism always is the politics of resentment — resentment of railroads gouging farmers, of manufacturing monopolies, of Washington. Comes now, in "Wall Street," upper-middle-class populism, the resentment of those who feel disadvantaged regarding leveraged buy-outs. However, it is hard to arouse a mass movement against institutions and practices unfamiliar to the masses.

Laws regulating uses of information (see Mr. Boesky) and restriction of Washington advocacy (see Mr. Deaver) invariably draw wary, blurry lines. It is precisely this imprecision that allows for ambiguities that can tempt people over the indistinct lines into corruption. The portrayal of temptation is the strength of "Wall Street."

The director, Oliver Stone, who also directed "Salvador" and "Platoon," makes political films that frequently become agitprop. "Wall Street" does that when Mr. Douglas spouts statistical rubbish about America's distribution of wealth. This movie is loaded with economic baby talk: We should "create instead of living by the buying and selling of others," and capitalism is "a zero-sum game" in which money is not made or lost, it is only "transferred."

"Wall Street" is a morality soap opera. It is a slick 1980s idea of "Waiting for Lefty," with a working stiff (the father of the young corrupted broker) as moral paragon. But Mr. Stone has part of a point and is not alone in seizing it. Caryl Churchill's play "Serious Money," which lampoons the frenzy of London's stock market, is a hit off Broadway and will be an even bigger one on Broadway beginning in January. Like "Wall Street," "Serious Money" stresses the anarchy of today's capital markets. There are 30 telephones on the set, and that is the constant background to a script delivered almost entirely in rhymed couplets. With manic inventiveness, Caryl Churchill's stagecraft fills the theater with a torrent of randomness. The plot, such as it is, is hard

to follow, and that is part of the point. In "Serious Money," contemporary capitalism is portrayed as "ball roulette, half Space Invaders." In "Wall Street," the investing public, unlike the inside-traders, is described as "out there throwing darts at a board."

A moral vulnerability of capitalism today is the belief that too much wealth is allocated capriciously, not only by the randomness of luck but by morally tainted shortcuts around a level playing field for all competitors. But the legitimacy of the economic order depends on a consensus that, on balance, rewards are rationally related to the social value of the effort involved.

Legitimacy also depends on the belief not only that careers are open to talents but also that investors have reasonably equal access to a valuable commodity — information. Furthermore, in a modern economy where government permeates economic life, another precious commodity is access: the ability to address decision-makers.

Ronald Reagan should pay more attention to the movies, at least "Wall Street." The Republican Party is the conservative party and conservatism celebrates capitalism, so the Republican Party is vulnerable to any decline in the social standing of capitalists.

When will Republicans find their voices for denouncing those who subvert the consensus sustaining the economic order, beginning with inside-traders and access-exploiters? Suppose the 1988 campaign is punctuated by indictments of persons ac-

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used of white-collar crimes. If genuine revulsion is not sufficient, simple self-interest should move Republicans to do what "Wall Street" does. The movie expresses a moral anxiety: Too much wealth is being allocated in ways irrationally related to social betterment.

The economic system, the primary allocator of the benefits of American life, is being drained of its legitimacy by the practices of people who are the conservatives' problem. Conservatives should be in a prosecutorial mood. Surely they should understand that discrediting economic arrangements is the essence of the left's agenda for expanding the role of the state as allocator of benefits.

Washington Post Writers Group

Younger Eyes Seem to Know About an Unknown Strength

By Eugene Policelli

SOUTH WINDSOR, Connecticut — The flash of understanding ignited by a paradox can be startling. Recently, in a municipal election debate when candidates presented their backgrounds, credentials and viewpoints, I said I had been in education for more than 20 years and rattled off the skills and qualifications I would bring to the board.

MEANWHILE of education. Then I almost lost my train of thought. I stammered but quickly recovered and concluded my remarks.

I realized that I was expatiating on what I would contribute to public service. Yes I had never taken the time to appreciate what 20 years in education had done for me. I was thinking specifically of what college students had taught me.

Later, I read a passage from G.K. Chesterton, the master of paradox: "Anyone whose childhood has known a real Christmas has ever afterwards an association between two ideas that most regard as remote from each other: the idea of a baby and the idea of unknown strength that sustains the stars."

Chesterton was speaking of the baby born in Bethlehem. But he might have

been thinking of all children who have that mysterious contradiction — tremendous vulnerability and the strength to hold our love and change our lives.

Perhaps that was the paradox with which I was grappling: finding strength in weakness, meaning in superficiality. And so college students and children have given me gifts all these years.

I have met so many young people who would not take no for an answer. They overcome heavy odds fighting against a system that says they are, after all, only adolescents and incapable of determining their lives. I have encouraged them to persevere, and I have seen them succeed.

Little did I realize, however, that I was the one who went away from the encounters as a renewed man.

I have seen college students pull themselves up from failing grades to make the dean's list, overcome severe family problems to find self-esteem again and turn up a way to subsidize their education when financial aid was no longer available. And I also think of the little ones — my own and others. When do they ever acquiesce meekly to a negative response?

I have seen young eyes sparkle when I offered a challenge. They were willing to do whatever was necessary, to accept whatever hardship. Once convinced of the possibilities for change, these young people go on at it with verve.

I recall how insightful young people are — how they circumvent the superficial and arrive at the essence of things. I hear them discuss social issues, the implications of science and heartfelt concern for the service of others.

I am in awe when I look at young children. They wish for peace, for an end to hunger, for harmony in their families, for love and understanding. They sense that somehow things could be different. From them I have received perhaps the best gift of all, the gift of hope.

We are admonished to see through the eyes of children. But sometimes it is difficult to clear our vision and to bend low enough to get a different perspective. In a sense, we all listen instinctively to children. In a department store or on a street, we turn in the direction of a crying child. Let us listen to the innocence of our little ones and to our young adults.

The paradox will endure: weakness and strength, innocent ignorance and wisdom, dependence and selfhood. I embrace the paradox. I am resolved to be grateful for and attentive to the "unknown strength that sustains the stars."

The writer is a career counselor at the University of Connecticut and a member of the board of education in South Windsor. He contributed this to the Hartford Courant.

Letters intended for publication should be addressed "Letters to the Editor" and contain the writer's signature, name and full address. Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. We cannot be responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Emotionally Charged Photographs on the Front Page

As a regular and sympathetic reader for more than 20 years, permit me to express dissatisfaction with your recent photographic coverage of the events in Israel and the occupied territories. Repetitious use of one-sided, emotionally charged pictures on the front page is not in keeping with the objective style and factual content of your articles.

While events in Israel are serious and merit extensive critical coverage (and front-page photographs, when these contribute to the understanding of events), one-sidedness and disproportionate use can give the impression that the newspaper is carrying out a campaign against perpetrators of injustice (brutal, heavily

Watching Mikhail's Navy

Hurray for Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson's uncompromising stand on intruding submarines ("Sweden Warns on Submarines," Dec. 21). Let us see whether it will bring glasnost to murky waters.

ROLF WIKLUND, Vandoeuvre, Switzerland

Women and the Revolution

Your People column of Dec. 11 told of a young girl, Sarah Rosen, who had been named one of Ms. magazine's Women of the Year for protesting the exclusion of girls from the Bicentennial re-enactment of the signing of the U.S. Constitution. Girls were excluded, the column noted,

Women and the Revolution

because women could not vote at the time — or so claimed the teachers. Many girls reportedly pointed out that nonwhite males did take part even though non-whites had not had the right to vote when the Constitution was written.

The girls were as wrong as their teachers. Women could vote at the time in New Jersey; they lost that right only 20 years later. And blacks were able to vote in most New England states. It is worth noting that the Constitution, before amendment, did not stipulate male gender as a requirement for public office. The Constitution did not include a color requirement, either, although naturalization laws would soon limit citizenship to white people.

Girls should have been included in the Bicentennial re-enactment in any case, because women played such a large role in winning the Revolution.

ELLIOTT R. BARKAN, Southampton, England.

The writer is visiting Fulbright professor of American history at the University of Southampton.

In Washington, Too

Cheers to the Prince of Wales for giving the stick to those responsible for deficient planning and mediocre architectural design in the United Kingdom and particularly in London (People, Dec. 3).

As a historian and a former member of the National Capital Planning Commission, I have long wished that someone at the highest levels of America's civic hierarchy would speak up about the disfigurement of Washington's skyline. The prince's observation about the need for experts to come down out of their ivory

towers and listen to the public is pertinent in Washington and other capitals.

In 1983, Washington's citizens attempted to assume direct participation in a singularly important design issue involving a large block overlooking the White House. In an overwhelming vote, citizens enacted the Rhodes Tavern Preservation Initiative law. This act provided for a citizens' commission of laymen and experts to seek a design solution for preserving historic Rhodes Tavern (circa 1799), Washington's first town hall and oldest extant commercial landmark.

Citizens had one design solution already in hand providing for new construction around the tavern with no loss of rentable floor space. Individuals and interested organizations with proven fund-raising records were on board to provide financing. All this popular action was aggressively opposed on all fronts by a petty fraternity of planners, architects and developers. This gang was appalled at a precedent demonstrating that citizens cared enough about their history and environment to demand adherence to a clubby, closed review process.

Within a year, the considerable political leverage of developers prevailed to crush this "dangerous" citizens' movement. Rhodes Tavern, the only remaining building in Washington passed by every presidential inaugural parade held here, was demolished, with the nearly total acquiescence of Washington's elected and appointed establishment.

NELSON F. RIMENSNYDER, Committee on the District of Columbia, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington.

Tribute to a Grand Lady

It was on Christmas Day, 1986, that Nora Isabella Samuelli, commonly known as "Bobbie," died in Paris at the age of 72. As a 30-year Senate staffer (now retired) who spent many hours on the Samuelli case, I wish to take advantage of the first anniversary of her death to pay a tribute to a grand lady.

Born in Romania in a prominent Jewish family, Bobbie was brought up by an English nanny, and English was really her first language. In 1944 she was taken on by the U.S. Legation in Bucharest as an assistant for information affairs. In 1949 she was sentenced to 15 years in prison as an "American spy." The trumped-up charges were designed to force the closing of the U.S. Information Office, described as "that botch of American spies." After

armed Israeli soldiers) and in support of innocent civilian victims (Palestinian children). I am sure this impression is not justified, but please understand how attached I am to a conception of journalism that sets the IHT apart: direct, factual, objective and nonsensational.

LAWRENCE ALLISON, Paris.

Anti-Israel bias is clear in the selection of a large picture on your Dec. 22 front page. Pictures are psychologically manipulative. This one conveys a message which belies your usual impartiality.

WALTER KRANZ, Locarno, Switzerland.

servicing 12 years of her sentence, Bobbie was released on the payment of ransom by relatives in the United States. She and her family were granted refugee status in France. At this point she made the unhappy discovery that, while there had never been any question about back pay for U.S. nationals sentenced to prison clearly as a result of their employment by the U.S. government, there was no provision under U.S. law for foreign nationals in the same position.

GENERAL NEWS

French TV Embraces Sexy Programs As Competition Warms Up, Limits on Explicitness Fade

By Edward Cody

PARIS — It was just another Saturday night on French television. The bare-breasted girl on the screen was chained to an iron bar, Mad Max, girded in leather, slowly passed the business end of his riot gun over her captive body, then threw her down on a pile of used tires and simulated not-so-consensual intercourse.

"These things are going further and further," said Béatrice Girault, a spokeswoman for M6, the channel that telecasts the scene into thousands of French homes. "And people are asking for more."

The M6 program, called "Sexy Clips," has joined a growing list of television sex shows that have taken France to a new frontier of what is acceptable over the airwaves. Private and newly privatized stations, eager for viewers and free from bureaucracy, have brought increasingly daring programming.

Proud of its liberal heritage and open-mindedness about sex, France has long struggled at torrid love scenes shown in films and later on prime-time television. Nude women have become ho-hum in advertising spots televised at any hour. But now, French television is showing sex for the sake of sex — and for the sake of ratings.

An American television correspondent who planned a story on the new programming said he had to abandon the idea for lack of suitable images. "There is no way we could show that an U.S. television," he said.

"The real novelty is that our television sets have begun showing eroticism as such," wrote the commentator Philippe Auber in a recent edition of the newsweekly Le Point.

Canal Plus, a subscription channel that operates with decoding devices, has been showing hard-core pornography films at midnight one Saturday a month for the last three years. A production assistant at Canal Plus who asked to remain anonymous said the monthly porn

movie usually gets 20 percent of the station's regular viewing audience. Now mainstream stations, broadcasting to anyone with a television set, have started moving toward more and more explicit sex scenes. The most daring programs

"These things are going further and further. And people are asking for more."

— Béatrice Girault, an M6 spokeswoman

are on near midnight, but humorous striptease sequences and pin-up-style nude poses have been programmed earlier, as have vivid prongs.

On M6, for example, "Sexy Clips" is preceded at 11 P.M. by "Charmes," on which women take off their clothes in a variety of ways. Just before midnight, a voice suggests in a bedroom whisper that it is time for "Sexy Clips," whereupon rock video frames are interspersed with sequences of a couple getting to know each other better at each appearance until by 1 A.M. they are nude and extremely well acquainted.

Marcel Bleustein-Blanchet, a pioneer of advertising in France

and founder of its largest agency, Publicis S.A., remarked recently that the sex shows on television have begun "a real revolution" in the French countryside. Many French farmers and villagers who had retained the more austere mores of their forebears, he said, now are staying up late to watch the new wave on television.

Pascale Breagnon, another producer, became well known last year with her "Sexy Folies," a program of humorous sex skits, also on Antenne 2. Since then, she has moved, along with her program — rebranded "Super Sexy" — to the privatized TFI, "Super Sexy," at 10:30 P.M. on the third Wednesday of each month, has risen to 26 points in the ratings, in which each point represents 194,000 households, according to a production assistant. Yvon Lemaquand, that constitutes 75 percent to 80 percent of the market at that hour.

"It is a funny, humorous program, and it approaches subjects that people consciously or unconsciously want to see," he said. Although nudity, straightforward language and sexual situations are the program's mainstay, the show has set itself limits and is distinguished from other sex shows because it seeks to make people laugh, Mr. Lemaquand explained.

The National Commission on Liberty and Communication — the country's official television oversight board — can ask to see file copies of the sex shows, but so far the government has not sought to restrain them.

Holocaust 'Lesson' Disowned

The Associated Press

BONN — A manual for military administrators that cited the gassing of the Jews as a "victory of economic principles" led to a protest and its repudiation by the Defense Ministry on Wednesday.

Ministry officials in Bonn said that the manual was an unofficial publication and that the article written by Rainer Remhart, the vice president of the 7th Military District administration in Bavaria, was only meant to state an extreme conclusion of economics.

Heinz Galinski, the president of the Jewish community in West Berlin, called it a "flagrant disparagement of the memory of the mur-

dered and the evidence of alarming anti-democratic thinking."

The passage he criticized said: "This poses the fundamental question whether economy as a formal principle under a power dedicated to serve public welfare can be applied universally. If we look at it from the point of view that the end justifies the means, then the use of poison gas for the mass extermination of Jews instead of individual executions also was a victory of economic principles."

It added that this "frightful episode" showed that the principle of being economical could and must be only one of the principles governing behavior in a democracy.

Get a taste of Mom's pumpkin pie. Call home.

You can just see her, testing the crust with her fork, as if every pie she's ever made hasn't been perfect. Tell her this one will be great, too. Go ahead. Reach out and touch someone.®



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DEATH NOTICE Henry COTTON on December 22nd suddenly, peacefully at King Edward VII Hospital, London, beloved husband of the late Toots and dearest step-father of Isobel and the late Nellie Moss. Memorial service to be announced.

Fasting by Iranians Now in the 4th Week

Protest Continues Over Expulsions To Gabon of Khomeini Opponents

By Barry James
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — A simple bathroom scale daily tells a story of stubborn hope and dwindling strength for 40 Iranians in Paris who say they will starve themselves to death in a test of will to force France to bring back 12 Iranians it expelled to Africa more than three weeks ago.

The 12 were put on a plane to Libreville, Gabon, on Dec. 8 as troublemakers, along with two Iranians who happened to be visiting Paris from Britain and Sweden and three Kurdish nationalists from Turkey.

The hunger strikers, members of the exiled opposition to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, the Iranian leader, contend that the deportations were part of a deal with the Khomeini regime to gain the release of French hostages. One hundred and twenty U.S. congressmen and hundreds of legislators from around the world have sent messages protesting the expulsions of the Iranians, most of whom had formal refugee status in France.

In the Paris suburb of Neuilly-sur-Seine, the hunger strike outside the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has entered its fourth week. In Libreville, 11 of the expelled Iranians, along with the French wife of one of them, also are on a hunger strike, and similar fasts by Iranian exiles are taking place in London and Washington.

"We are ready and very determined to go to the bitter end," said Assadi, 33, one of those expelled, said in a telephone interview from Libreville. "We have made the pledge among ourselves that either we go back to France or we will all die here."

Mr. Assadi said three of the hunger strikers in Libreville are in a hospital, including two women students.

One other woman was too ill on her arrival in Libreville to begin the hunger strike, he said. Another of the exiles, Hassan Habibi, has a French wife, a nurse who later flew to Gabon and joined the fast.

Mr. Assadi said the Iranians, who were arrested in pre-dawn raids, were sent to Libreville without money or even a change of clothes, and have been confined to their hotel since they arrived, apart from visits under guard to the hospital.

"We don't pay for our hotel because we were brought here by force," he said. He added that President Omar Bongo visited the exiles on Dec. 16 and promised he would use his influence to obtain their return to France.

Two of the 17 persons originally put on a plane to Gabon were later released when it was found they had valid refugee papers issued by the British and Swedish governments and had been only visiting Paris. As for the three Turks, "we are not sure why they were included," said a spokesman for the Turkish Embassy in Paris. "But since they had political refugee status in France, we have not officially intervened."

"They don't know themselves why they were included," Mr. Assadi said. "We met them for the first time on the plane. They speak no Farsi and little French, so we have a lot of difficulty communicating with them. But they also have wives and children in Paris."



A man warmed himself Wednesday over a steam vent in Philadelphia.

Temperatures Fall Below Freezing in Northeastern U.S.

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Temperatures fell below zero degrees Fahrenheit (minus 18 centigrade) overnight Tuesday across northern New England and upstate New York. The region's homeless sought the warmth of shelters, some of which had to turn people away for lack of space.

The Boston and New York police were pressed into service Tuesday night and early Wednesday to get the homeless to shelters. In northern New Jersey, shelters were full or nearly full. The wind chill factor increased the suffering of the homeless. The cold weather also extended to the West and the Southwest. A Dallas shelter for the homeless that had shut down because some occupants broke no-smoking rules was reopened on Tuesday. In Los Angeles, officials agreed to keep emergency shelters operating for homeless persons.

Palestinian Lawyers to Boycott Trials of Protesters by Israelis

By John Kifner
New York Times Service

NABLUS, Israeli-Occupied West Bank — Arab lawyers announced Wednesday that they would boycott hundreds of military trials of Palestinians rounded up on the West Bank after two weeks of widespread disorders.

"By working on these cases, we are granting legitimacy to what the authorities are doing," said Fawad Bouhus, a lawyer, after a meeting Tuesday in which defense attorneys, in effect, decided to join a strike by Gaza Strip lawyers to protest the military tribunals.

The system of military justice in the occupied territories has long been controversial, with Palestinians asserting that it is arbitrarily applied.

A Palestinian from the Gaza Strip, Mustafa Issa al-Baik, 17, died overnight Tuesday in an Israeli hospital, the army said, of a bullet wound in the head suffered on Dec. 21. His death raised the fatality toll to at least 22 protesters.

Israeli troops and security men have rounded up nearly a thousand Palestinians; the army gives the figure as 900. Many of them were caught in sweeps at night through refugee camps and Arab villages.

The sweeps are continuing. The Palestinian Press Service reported that 15 more persons were arrested in the Gaza Strip and 25 from various towns in the West Bank.

The authorities seized nine men identified as Palestinian militants, five of whom had been released from Israeli jails in a 1983 prisoner swap with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command organization headed by Ahmed Yehia.

There was speculation that the nine might be candidates for deportation and administrative detention are punishments imposed by the Israeli authorities in the occupied territories that are separate and distinct from the military trials now going on.

The United States has been openly pressuring Israel not to impose deportation.

But Israeli officials have publicly rebuffed the U.S. advice. Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir declared that "Israel knows how to defend its peace and security."

The 10-man inner cabinet met to discuss the question of expulsions. The ministers refused comment as they left the meeting.

Security officials are believed to have drawn up lists of dozens of Palestinians who they would like to see expelled but are awaiting the difficult political decision by the government.

The independent newspaper Ha'aretz, suggested in an editorial that the U.S. advice should be rejected, saying that "according to accepted opinion — based on 20 years of experience — the expulsion of subversive elements and riot organizers to Jordan is a preventive and deterrent measure of unparalleled efficacy."

Both Jordan and Egypt have said they would refuse to accept any Palestinians expelled by Israel.

Deportations should they be decided upon, would likely not take place overnight. There is an appeals procedure, to a military advisory committee whose recommendations is not binding, and lawyers representing Palestinians have vowed to use it to slow the process.

In addition to deportation, which the Israelis say is sanctioned

by the regulations of the pre-1948 British mandate over Palestine, the military authorities have also applied a punishment known as administrative detention.

Under this practice, an individual can be ordered held in jail by the military commander for a period of up to six months, which could be renewed indefinitely.

In both the deportation and administrative detention procedures, the evidence against the accused person may be declared secret. Defense lawyers charge that this makes their job impossible.

Meanwhile, the police said that 10 identical letter bombs had been mailed from Turkey to several locations in Israel. Two residents of Or Yehuda, near Tel Aviv, were slightly injured, the police said.

Troubles in Gaza Stir Palestinians in Egypt

By Alan Cowell
New York Times Service

CANADA CAMP, Egypt — The trouble did not spill over here, but the anger did, and so did the fury.

This is Egypt's only Palestinian refugee district, a razor-wire fence away from the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip. That strip has been one theater of the anti-Israeli protests in which at least 22 Arabs have been killed in recent weeks.

Like those across the wire, the people here are Palestinian, from the same families, yet separated from them by a cartographer's pen-stroke. When frontiers were appointed by the 1979 Camp David peace agreement, the lines were drawn according to a 1906 treaty between Britain and the Ottoman Empire, which then ruled Palestine.

Those lines from the past cut through an unforeseen modernity, leaving 5,000 Palestinians marooned in Egypt, apart from the 600,000 in the crush of Gaza.

If Palestinians are often cast as unwanted folk, those here seem doubly bereft, an irritant sometimes to the Egyptians, and unwanted — the young, angry ones, at least — by the Israelis. Many seek to go to Gaza, an occupied land in the harsh grip of turmoil, because it is perceived as offering jobs and reunions.

"It is a catastrophe," said a teacher from the school that turns out teen-agers with no jobs or prospects. "We want to go back. We cannot."

When they hear the rumblings of protest, across the wire, and see the smoke of the protesters' fires, "we are sad," he said, adding: "They are our brothers. But we can only resist in Palestine. We cannot resist in Egypt. Here, we must be polite."

There have been no street protests in Canada Camp, he said.

Many residents say they have been promised a place in Israeli-occupied land by the occupation authorities, and want to go. But Egypt is supposed to pay an \$8,000 relocation fee for each family to move. It has not done so, apparently because of its domestic economic troubles, and some say the financial restraint is a principal obstacle keeping them from moving to the Gaza Strip.

In any event, the elders say, Israel has barred all men 17 to 26 years old from crossing the wire.

TRADE: Growth in Exports Is Helping U.S. Economy

(Continued from Page 1)

While the improvement in trade appears to be firmly rooted, other areas may prove unconvincingly erratic next year.

"I think '88 is going to be a year of stumbling and staggering growth," said Donald H. Straszheim, chief economist for Merrill Lynch Capital Markets. Financial markets, he added, will be highly volatile.

Economists can only make educated stats at such basics as what will happen to the price of oil, how fast the trade deficit will improve or how much psychological damage was inflicted by the evaporation of half a trillion dollars from investors' portfolios.

The stock plunge caused most analysts to lower estimates of next year's growth in GNP, but some have since restored part of the markdown.

The most common professional guess is that GNP will grow about 6 percent as much as this year's moderate expansion, not yet finally determined, of about 3.25 percent.

The 51 participants in a poll conducted by Blue Chip Economic Indicators, a newsletter, put next year's GNP growth at 1.9 percent after removing the effects of inflation.

Among members of the National Association of Business Economists, a consensus shows the economy growing by 2 percent.

Last week the Reagan administration projected 2.4 percent growth, a target that assumes stepped-up expansion by other countries and a Federal Reserve monetary policy more accommodating than it has been in most recent months.

The administration also projects that the Consumer Price Index will decline about half a percentage point, to 4.3 percent, over the coming year while unemployment averages 5.8 percent, the rate that now prevails.

A number of factors, however, are buffering the economy. Among the unknowns is whether, assuming oil prices ease, the decline will be enough to offset the inflationary effects of the slumping dollar and wage pressures arising from tight labor markets in some regions.

There is also the question of whether the Federal Reserve will be as quick to detect and counter a pickup in inflation during a presidential election year as it would in other years. All its governors have been appointed by President Ronald Reagan.

If American consumers retrench, this would tend to have the beneficial effect of curbing imports and increasing savings that would then be available to help finance a federal deficit now substantially financed by foreigners.

But this retrenchment could tip the economy to the brink of recession, generally defined as two consecutive quarters of contraction in the GNP. Mr. Straszheim of Merrill Lynch, for example, thinks that lackluster Christmas sales will force production cuts in the first quarter that would be large enough to push the GNP into negative territory before the economy bounces back in the spring.

On the other hand, some economists insist that lower interest rates brought about by the stock market collapse will entirely offset the negative consequences of the plunge.

AFGHAN: Kabul Says Siege Is Over but Rebels Deny It

(Continued from Page 1)

mat monitoring the fighting said that it was inevitable the 50,000 troops would battle past the guerrillas and reach Kabul, but he said he was skeptical their arrival would end the siege.

"The mujahidin reportedly intend to maintain the siege for as long as possible with the hope of improving their control of the area," the diplomat said, "and thereby opening up new supply routes in the strategic center of eastern Afghanistan." He said 6,000 to 10,000 rebels were in the area.

The diplomat quoted medical officials in Kabul as saying that morgues were overflowing with hundreds of dead and that hospitals were desperately short of blood and medicine.

Afghan guerrillas have kept Khosr isolated since shortly after the Soviet invasion and tightened the noose this year by closing the airport as well as cutting the road.

Western analysts have described Soviet tactics in Afghanistan as leaving the most dangerous ground combat in Afghans while supplying artillery and aircraft support.

The Soviet Union entered Afghanistan to support a Communist government weakened by internal feuds and a civil war with Moslem tribesmen, and it is estimated to have more than 110,000 troops helping Kabul against the rebels, who are backed by the United States, China and Iran.

The reported lifting of the siege came shortly before a U.S. under-secretary of state, Michael H. Armacost, is due in Pakistan to discuss prospects for an Afghan peace settlement. A Pakistani official said President Mohammed Zia-ul-Haq's government was hoping to hear a U.S. assessment of Soviet intentions in Afghanistan after the Washington summit talks.

Tass said that an Italian journalist, Fausto Biloslavo, reported missing on assignment in Afghanistan, and a French photographer, Alain Guillo, captured by Afghan government troops in mid-September, were to be tried.

Mr. Biloslavo, 26, a correspondent of the Trieste-based Albatros Press news agency, is being held by "Afghan authorities after his arrest in the defeat of a rebel group," Tass said, adding that "criminal action for illegally entering Afghanistan and joining the ranks of an armed anti-government group" has been started.

Mr. Guillo, 45, a free-lance photographer captured in the northern Fariab Province, was accused by Tass of "collecting information intruding on the state and military interests of the republic" of Afghanistan. The wording suggested he might be charged with spying.

Tass said that Western doctors and journalists entering Afghanistan with the guerrillas were actually military advisers. "Those are far from being tourist or reporters' trips," the agency said.

(Reuters, AFP, UPI)

ALSACE: Still in the Middle

(Continued from Page 1)

some of the first German factories created in the region.

"But then one saw that the Germans were investing and the French were not," he said, "and one said, 'Why refuse?'"

Alphonse Troester, a 36-year-old historian and mayor of the town of Rosheim, said, "Instead of being a French spearhead for the penetration of Germany, Alsace has become the site of the German penetration of France."

Belatedly, Paris has grasped what is happening in Alsace. "Now there is talk of a Franco-German army — the context is suddenly different — and now the government wants suddenly to promote the study of German," said Mr. Troester, an energetic proponent of a bilingual Alsace. "But German is not a foreign language; it is our language."

Strasbourg has a vocation even larger than a crucible of understanding between two ancient foes, Germany and France. The city is battling to retain its claim to be "the capital of Europe" — or at least one of Europe's capitals — as both the European Parliament and the Council of Europe hold their sessions in Strasbourg.

But the construction of new parliamentary quarters in Brussels has Strasbourg worried that the European Parliament might vote to move to the Belgian capital, which is already the heart of European Community activity.

Over lunch in a 14th-century restaurant next to Strasbourg's magnificent cathedral, Alain Howiller, the editor of *Dernieres Nouvelles*, said: "Alsace was 'a region that wants to be loved by the rest of France but isn't.'"

"We are a little too French for the Germans and a little too German for the French," said Mr. Howiller, who contended that Alsace should become unequivocally French. "Maybe it is better to make a choice and put an end to the dilemma."

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Ruling Impedes Merger in Detroit

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — An administrative law judge recommended Wednesday that the Justice Department reject a bid by the Detroit Free Press and The Detroit News to merge their noneditorial operations.

Judge Morton Needleman told Attorney General Edwin Meese 3d that the Free Press "does not qualify as a failing newspaper," as asserted by the owners.

The decision on whether to allow the merger now rests with Mr. Meese. The parties to the case have 45 days to make their final arguments. Gannett Co., owner of the News, and Knight-Ridder Inc., owner of the Free Press, contend that the partial merger is needed to keep the Free Press in business and to end losses at the papers.

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DEPRIVE: Romanian Food Lines REEF: Shoring Up a Key

(Continued from Page 1)

Whether Mr. Ceausescu would be able to make good his promise was another matter.

"What he has given the people this month is a sop, a palliative, to get by the current unrest," noted another foreign analyst. "Now that his police are once more in place, his informers back in the factories, and the party conference out of the way, I fear we will see the food lines wither again for lack of food."

Immigration to Israel Is Up
Reuters

JERUSALEM — Israel received 13,658 Jewish immigrants in 1987, a 35-percent increase over the previous year, the Ministry for Immigrant Absorption said Wednesday. But of the 8,080 Jews allowed to leave the Soviet Union this year, it said, only 2,180 chose Israel.

REEF: Shoring Up a Key

(Continued from Page 1)

rounding seabed contains deposits of manganese and cobalt.

But none of that will mean much if the island disappears.

Its major problem is that it lies in an area that the Japanese have dubbed "Typhoon Giza," a center of relentless storms that send 60-foot waves pounding against Okinoshima's twin boulders. By now, they barely endure, two bumps lying 1,400 yards apart and sticking no more than two feet out of the water at high tide.

There is no way to guarantee the durability of its work, Mr. Waki noted. "This should last 50 to 100 years, like any other steel and concrete work," he said. "But I really can't be sure. Out there on the water, conditions are really rough."

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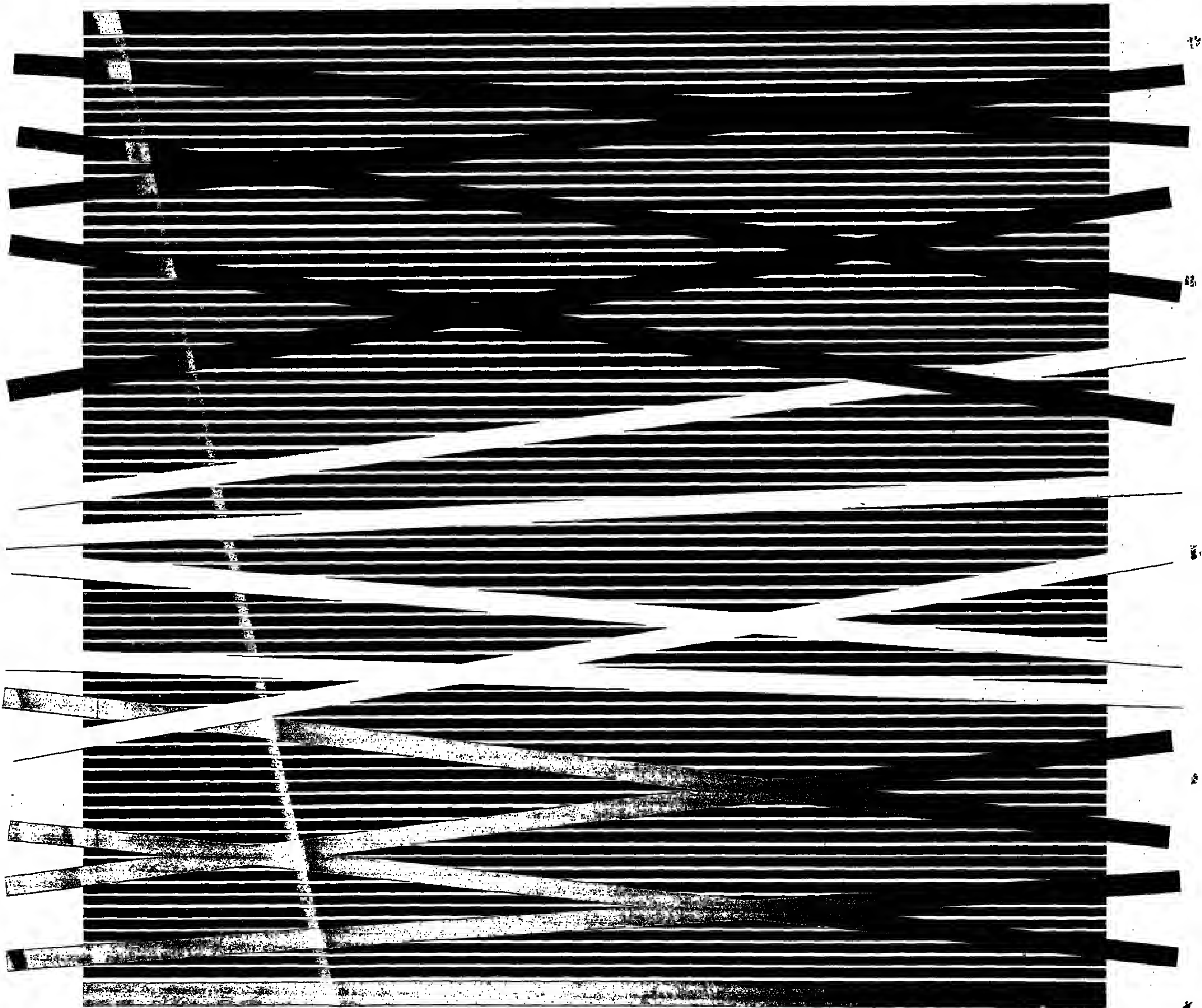
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السوق المالية

THE FINE ART OF FLYING

by Jesus Soto



Air France recently commissioned a series of artists to capture its new spirit: The Fine Art of Flying. This composition titled, Linear Movement, was conceived by the Venezuelan artist and world traveller Jesus Soto. His work, exploring matter, space and their relationship with time, is on permanent exhibition in many museums around the world.

Jesus Soto

هكذا من القليل

Photo F. HIRALDO - Image Bank

MEILLEURS VŒUX
 SEASON'S GREETINGS
 GLÜCKLICHES NEUES JAHR
 FELICE ANNO NUOVO
 FELIZ AÑO NUEVO
 שנה טובה
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THE FINE ART
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SCIENCE

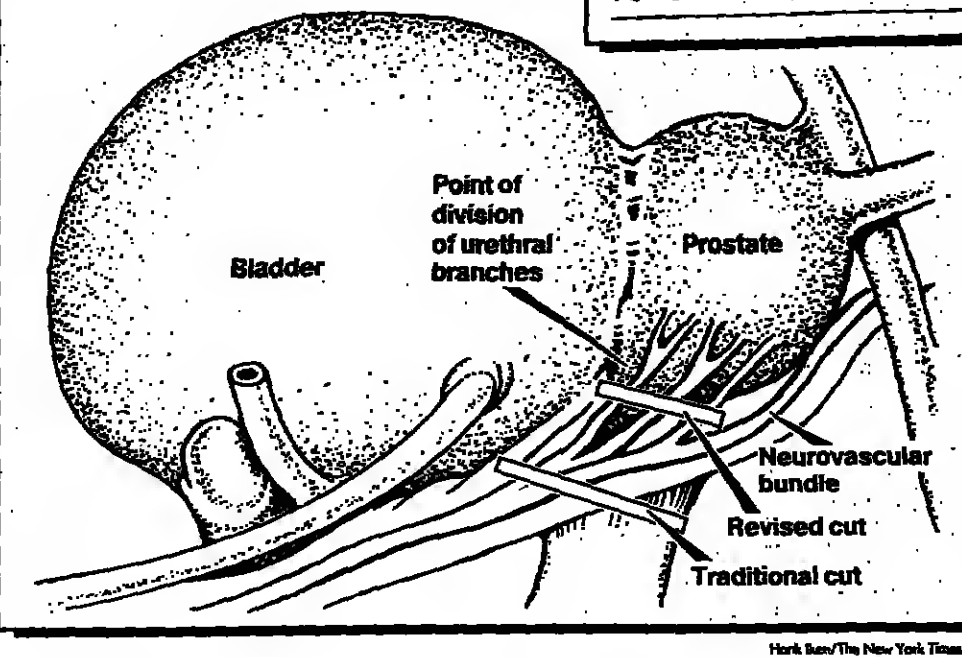
New Prostate Surgery Protects Sex Potency

By Walter Sullivan
A TECHNIQUE for surgery in a prostate cancer is moving into widespread use as doctors find it can avoid the procedure's most feared side effect: impotence.

The advance was made possible by the discovery that the microscopic nerves that control erections pass near the prostate in a bundle. In the past, removal of a cancerous prostate usually severed those nerves.

surgery during prostate removal damaged nerves that controlled erection. Walsh noted that on rare occasions patients came through the old procedure with no potency loss.

Dr. Patrick Walsh of Johns Hopkins University developed the procedure that increases the chance that men who lose the prostate to cancer surgery will remain potent. The technique avoids cutting the nerves that control erections. The procedure works best for younger men.



The operation was devised in 1982 by Dr. Patrick Walsh of Johns Hopkins University, where the procedure has been performed about 510 times.

The approach has gained wide acceptance among surgeons. If they remove the tumor entirely, the cancer should not reappear, whereas treatment by radiation, they say, may leave some cancer cells still active.

It remains to be determined whether one approach is superior to the other. A comparative survey among as many as 100 medical centers is being organized.

Fear that surgery would lead to impotence has led a number of patients to opt for radiation. Dr. Gerald Murphy, now at the State University of New York in Buffalo, found in a survey of 30,000 cases between 1974 and 1984 that 3,800 patients elected to have surgery but that twice as many chose radiation treatment.

The rest either avoided surgery, elected a combination of strategies, or, because the cancer had spread, were treated so that production of the male hormone, testosterone, was halted, which seems to slow the cancer's spread.

The nerve-sparing procedure is too new to be reflected in such statistics, Dr. Murphy said. The new technique, like radiation therapy, leaves two-thirds of the patients potent. They are not fertile, however, because the prostate produces the seminal fluid that carries sperm.

In the past, removal of the prostate often caused permanent loss of bladder or bowel control. Both functions are controlled by muscles close to the prostate.

In addition, the two-lobed prostate gland is wrapped around the urethra, which exits from the bladder. The new surgical procedure makes it easier to reach the urethra to the bladder once the prostate has been removed, according to Dr. William Fair, urologist at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York.

In most men, the prostate gland begins to enlarge after age 45, but excess tissue can often be removed without loss of potency.

Prostate cancer is diagnosed in about 96,000 American men a year; more die from it than from any other cancer except those of the lungs and colon. Because the prostate is deep within the abdominal cavity, tumors there are difficult to detect early. In a number of prostate cancer cases, the disease has spread to other organs, such as the bones, before its presence becomes known.

The traditional detection method is for a physician to insert a gloved finger into the rectum and feel for a dense area inside the prostate. A considerable percentage of cancers can be missed by this method. Ultrasound or blood tests are being attempted, but have not yet achieved general acceptance.

Prostate cancers grow slowly and may not threaten health for many years. When a man is 75 or older, doctors may decide to leave a prostate tumor untreated on the theory that the patient is more likely to die of some other cause before the tumor becomes a problem.

In a typical operation, the body cavity is entered through the lower abdomen. Lymph nodes that drain the prostate area are removed and examined to see if the cancer has spread. If only one lobe of the prostate is contaminated, it may not be necessary to remove the other part.

The nerves are embedded in a neurovascular bundle that includes blood vessels. The nerves' function was confirmed when the bundle was stimulated electrically during an operation, producing an erection.

Dr. Walsh and, much earlier, Dr. Alex L. Finkle of the University of California School of Medicine in San Francisco had suspected that

Scientists Find New Gravity Forces

By John Noble Wilford
New York Times Staff

PHYSICISTS have stumbled on a perplexing surprise in their search for more evidence of a possible fifth force in nature. They believe they have detected a sixth force.

For decades scientists have lived happily with four fundamental forces: gravity, electromagnetism, the strong force that holds the nucleus of an atom together and the weak one that causes some atoms to break down in radioactive decay.

Some bold scientists even contemplated a grand unifying theory in which three and perhaps all four forces were seen as manifestations of a single force. Then evidence of a fifth force, believed to counteract gravity, was found. The latest findings now indicate a force that has the opposite effect: It seems to enhance gravity.

U.S. Air Force geophysicists made measurements recently that revealed what they said was the first indication of an additional attractive force that slightly increases the effect of gravity beyond what would be predicted by Newton's laws. They concluded, "A clear pattern emerged indicating that not only is there a fifth force, but there is a sixth force as well."

magnitude of the effect so significant, as to rule out the possibility of error. Whether there are indeed two additional forces remains to be proved, scientists said.

Two years ago, physicists led by Ephraim Fischbach of Purdue University reported anomalies in earlier experiments that they said were evidence of an unrecognized force that counteracts gravity. The force is weak and operates only at ranges up to a few thousand feet. This has become known as the fifth force.

Although some subsequent tests failed to detect this force, other experiments not only produced positive results but also led physicists to believe that the strength of the fifth force depended on the chemical composition of the substances rather than on mass alone.

Scientists from the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory at Hanscom Air Force Base in Massachusetts decided to investigate, in part because the force, if it exists, could have some effect on the trajectory of missiles that depend on inertial guidance systems.

The team made precise measurements with a gravity meter on and around a 2,000-foot television tower in North Carolina. Measurements on the ground were adjusted to account for gravitational effects from the sun, moon, air, ground water and the tower itself. They were

used to predict how the force of gravity should diminish at higher elevations on the tower. Then gravity readings were taken at regular intervals all the way to the top of the tower.

"Our attitude at the start was, 'Let's show that the fifth force is wrong,'" Donald H. Eckhardt, director of earth sciences at the laboratory, said. "In fact, we did find something in the data that differed from predictions. There it is, we thought, there's the fifth force, the repulsive force. Wait a minute. We looked more carefully and saw it was an added attractive force we were detecting."

In a report at a conference of the American Geophysical Union earlier this month, the air force scientists said they detected "a significant departure" of up to 5 parts per 10 million in the gravity strength beyond what was predicted. The effect was about 10 times larger than what could be attributed to uncertainty, they said.

Dr. Eckhardt said that in the first 100 feet or so, the repulsive, or fifth, force appeared to be dominant. At higher elevations the attractive force was more evident, until its strength diminished at the top of the tower.

Dr. Fischbach, whose research inspired the new thinking and experimentation on gravity, said the new discovery suggested that "our ideas so far have been too simplistic."

IN BRIEF

Rare Animal Gets Fancy Dentistry

CHEYENNE, Wyoming (UPI) — One of the black-footed ferrets in the captive breeding program is now the rarest animal ever to have a tooth fitted with a gold crown. The Wyoming Game and Fish Department said. A department spokesman said the dentistry was performed recently on a male ferret with a broken and abscessed canine tooth, requiring a root canal and gold crown to prevent infection. The operation took place at the department's Sybille Wildlife Research Center.

Decline Noted in U.S. Alcohol Abuse

WASHINGTON (NYT) — A national campaign to reduce the death and suffering from alcohol abuse seems to be working for adults, with alcoholic consumption dropping, drinking-related traffic fatalities decreasing and more people becoming aware that alcohol and pregnancy don't mix. But officials stress that the problem remains massive and that the nation is slipping in at least one key area: Efforts to limit drinking among teenagers and young adults have largely failed. The battle to curb use by young people of the nation's primary recreational drug, alcohol, is being lost in part because of conflicting messages about alcohol: a whole, official say.

Meteorite Yields Clue to Solar System

NEW YORK (NYT) — Scientists have detected grains of silicon carbide in a meteorite and say they believe the discovery strongly reinforces the theory that the solar system formed partly from the debris of defunct stars.

The scientists reported in the British journal Nature that the chemical composition of the meteorite appeared to be extremely primitive, consisting of substances older than the solar system itself. The scientists suggested that the microscopic grains of silicon carbide they found were probably formed in the atmosphere of one or more red dwarf stars. Red giants eventually explode as supernovas, burping their vaporized substance into interstellar space. Our solar system is believed to have swept up some of this debris, providing most of the material from which the Earth is made.

Cuneiform Archive Found in Syria

NEW YORK (AP) — A collection of 1,100 clay tablets and seal impressions found in Syria is the largest body of written information recovered from the ancient city-states of northern Mesopotamia in more than 50 years, researchers say.

Translations of about 300 of the tablets describe spying among rival city-states and the use of horse-mounted troops to quell disturbances caused by brigands in the countryside threatening the cities, said Harvey Weiss of Yale University, leader of the expedition that discovered the tablets.

NYSE Most Actives table with columns for Volume, High, Low, Last, and Change.

Market Sales table with columns for Volume, High, Low, Last, and Change.

NYSE Index table with columns for High, Low, Close, and Change.

Wedge's NYSE Closing table with columns for High, Low, Close, and Change.

AMEX Diary table with columns for Close and Prev.

NASDAQ Index table with columns for Close, High, Low, and Change.

AMEX Most Actives table with columns for Volume, High, Low, Last, and Change.

AMEX Stock Index table with columns for High, Low, Close, and Change.

Dow Jones Bond Averages table with columns for Close and Change.

NYSE Diary table with columns for Advance, Decline, Total Issues, and New Lists.

Odd-Lot Trading in N.Y. table with columns for Buy, Sell, and % of Total.

Dow Jones Averages table with columns for Index, High, Low, and Change.

Standard & Poor's Index table with columns for High, Low, Close, and Change.

Previous NASDAQ Diary table with columns for Advance, Decline, and Total Issues.

AMEX Stock Index table with columns for High, Low, Close, and Change.

AMEX Stock Index table with columns for High, Low, Close, and Change.

Large table of stock prices with columns for 12 Month High/Low, Stock, Div, Yld, PE, and Close.

NYSE Reverses 3-Day Decline

NEW YORK — Prices on the New York Stock Exchange moved higher in light trading Wednesday, breaking a string of three consecutive losing sessions. The Dow Jones industrial average, which had fallen 16.08 points Tuesday, rose 23.21 to close at 1950.00. It jumped 20 points in the opening minutes of Wednesday's session.

Broad-market indexes also advanced. The New York Stock Exchange index rose 1.68 to 128.32. Standard & Poor's 500-stock index rose 1.27 to 347.86. The average share price gained 37 cents.

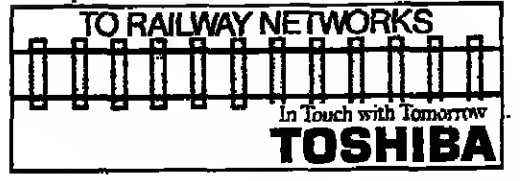
and Tuesday suggested that the market was over-extended and was due for a consolidation. However, "We have probably retraced enough," Ms. Zagorski said. "Things are getting ready to do better in January. I don't think you'll get anything really dramatic over today and tomorrow. We won't come back to the real world until next week."

Despite the low volume of stocks traded, Wednesday was the busiest session of the week so far. Many investors had opted to take the week off.

"What happens is that we get some random action on low volume," said Michael Metz of Oppenheimer & Co.

The selling of the earlier sessions had been blamed, at least partially, on concern about inflation and worries that foreign investors would hasten their departure from dollar-denominated securities as the dollar fell to new lows, analysts said.

Vertical advertisements on the right margin including 'U.S. Future', 'Currency Options', and 'S&P 100 Index Options'.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1987-FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1988 **

WALL STREET WATCH

What the Fund Managers Like for the New Year

By VARTANIG G. VARTAN
NEW YORK — With a disquieting investment year drawing to an end, market professionals are mulling over their candidates for favored stocks in 1988.

At these prices, I like the Ogilvy Group, which happens to be an old favorite of mine, said Scott M. Black, president of Delphi Management Inc. in Boston.

Among the picks were W.R. Berkley, an insurance firm, and Jostens, which makes class rings.

W.R. Berkley, a fire-and-casualty insurance company that also is insured over the counter, is one choice of William G. Garrison, president of Garrison, Keogh & Co. in New York.

Service Corp. International, a company that is interesting for its stability and is one step removed from the economic cycle, is an example of what we like, Mr. Hodgman said.

Grand Met Bids for Martell

Company Valued At 3.7 Billion FF

LONDON — Grand Metropolitan PLC opened a bidding war Wednesday for Martell & Company, saying it was making an offer that values the prestigious cognac house at 3.7 billion French francs.

Grand Met, a large British food, beverage and hotel company, said it was offering 2,675 francs a share for the roughly 80.1 percent of Martell that it doesn't already own.

Martell is also the target of a takeover bid from Mumm & Compagnie, a subsidiary of Seagram Co., which announced an agreement Dec. 16 to buy 40 percent of Martell from the Martell family for 2,500 francs a share, or 1.49 billion francs.

In Toronto, a Seagram spokesman said after announcement of the counterbid that Seagram's managers remained hopeful "that the French government will view this agreement as positively as our two family firms intend it to be."



Oil workers on an offshore drilling platform.

Hopes Fade in Oil Service Industry

OPEC Discord Hampens Chances of New Exploration

DALLAS — After three years of staggering losses, executives in the oilfield service industry thought that the worst was finally over last summer.

With oil at \$15 a barrel, the number of rigs used to drill for new oil in the United States — a key measure of the industry's health — would average about 950 in 1988, according to the American Petroleum Institute, a trade group.

Saudis to Issue Bonds in Effort To Cut Deficit

MANAMA, Bahrain — Saudi Arabia unveiled plans Wednesday to borrow for the first time since the early 1960s in an attempt to trim its budget deficit and ease strains on its foreign reserves.

The changes in the petroleum situation and the reduction in the country's revenue to one-fifth of what it was a few years ago led the government to seek ways of keeping spending at a level commensurate with continued national economic development, he said.

Unveiling the 1988 budget, the king said that the government would curb spending to 141.2 billion riyals, a 17 percent cut from 170 billion riyals in 1987.

NYSE Report Suggests Limiting Computer Role

NEW YORK — Computerized program trading, a factor widely blamed for the Wall Street stock market collapse, should be limited, and the government's regulatory machinery should be updated to deal with it, a New York Stock Exchange study said Wednesday.

Currency Rates

Table with columns for currency pairs (e.g., London, Tokyo, Zurich) and their respective rates.

Mexican Debt Plan Looks Attractive for Big, Strong Banks

NEW YORK — U.S. banks with a strong capital base are the most likely to participate in Mexico's novel proposal to reduce its debt burden, analysts say.

Under the plan, announced Tuesday, Mexico would issue 20-year bonds secured by U.S. government bonds. Mexico's bank creditors could buy the bonds by exchanging existing loans to Mexico at a discount from their face value.

Minivans, Pickups Lift Flagging U.S. Automakers

Trucks' Popularity Gives Industry a New Chance in Battle With Japanese

DETROIT — Parking lots at schools are crowded with minivans picking up their children. Young executives park their BMWs and Volvos on weekends to drive their Jeeps to the country club or their vacation homes.

Interest Rates

Table with columns for various interest rates (e.g., 30-day, 90-day, 1-year) and their values.

Asian Dollar Deposits

Table with columns for Asian Dollar Deposits (e.g., 1 month, 3 months, 6 months) and their values.

U.S. Money Market Funds

Table with columns for U.S. Money Market Funds (e.g., 30-day, 60-day, 90-day) and their values.

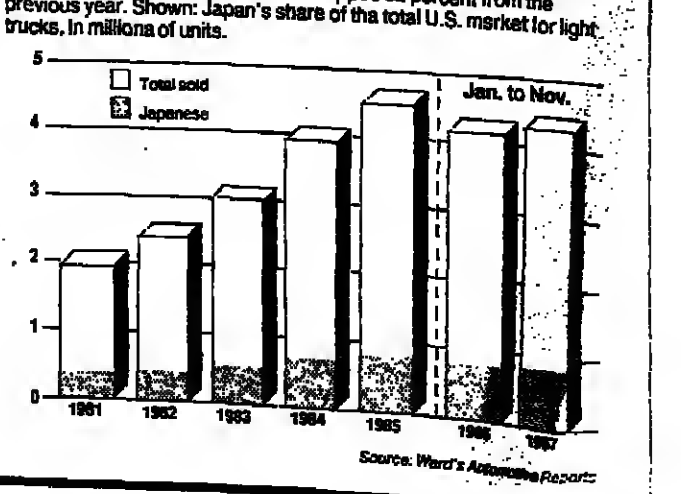
Gold

Table with columns for Gold prices (e.g., A.M., P.M., Close) and their values.



Shopping for a Jeep in a Michigan showroom.

The Japanese Lose Ground in U.S. Sales of Light Trucks



In the first 10 months of this year, imports from Japan of minivans, sport utility vehicles and pickups fell to 17.3 percent of total U.S. sales.

U.S. Futures

Table of U.S. Futures prices for various commodities including Grains, Food, Metals, Livestock, and Currency Options.

RIGS: Oil Services Face Hard Times

(Continued from first finance page) Many experts fear that the damage from such a contraction would outweigh the gains.

INTERNATIONAL POSITIONS

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER (Europe) - The Paris-based European Headquarters of an American industrial company is looking for its European Controller.

INTERNATIONAL POSITIONS

appears every Thursday - The Paris-based European Headquarters of an American industrial company is looking for its European Controller.

INTERNATIONAL POSITIONS

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

Table of international market data including Paris Commodities, London Commodities, Spot Commodities, Dividends, U.S. Treasuries, DM Futures Options, and London Metals.

THE INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE MARKETPLACE

Real estate listings and advertisements including Moon-Bound, Indigo, and various property offers in the USA and Europe.

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Wednesdays AMEX Closing. Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press.

Table with columns: 12 Month High/Low, Div. Yld. PE, Stock, and various stock symbols like A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z.

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Wedge-on OTC Print advertisement.

INTERNATIONAL FUNDS (Quotations Supplied by Funds Listed) Dec. 30, 1987

Large table listing various international funds with columns for fund name, share price, and other details. Includes sub-sections like 'Other Funds' and 'Floating-Rate Notes'.

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Advertisement for 'Floating-Rate Notes' with columns for currency, coupon, and bid/ask prices.

Handwritten signature or initials: J.P. Vicioliso

CURRENCY MARKETS

Dollar Steady After Intervention

NEW YORK — The dollar closed barely changed Wednesday in thin trading after concerted central bank intervention did little to alter bearishness on the currency. The dollar closed below 1.60 Deutsche marks and 134 yen, but above the record lows of 1.5665 DM and 122.75 yen touched earlier this week.

London Dollar Rates

Table with columns: Currency, Rate, Change. Includes Deutsche mark, Japanese yen, Swiss franc, French franc.

Mr. Baker refused, because of fears that higher U.S. interest rates would trigger a recession prior to the 1988 election, the sources quoted by the Post said. After dropping to postwar lows this week, the dollar is likely to fall further in January unless the United States raises interest rates or takes other significant policy actions such as trimming its budget deficit, economists and currency traders say.

Soviets Create Bank to Handle Hard Currency

MOSCOW — The Soviet Union has created a bank that will handle the country's reserves of hard currency and deal on international markets, Tax reported Wednesday. The news agency said the bank would open on Friday. Tax said that Yuri Moskovsky, 45, an adviser on banking and money matters to the Soviet Council of Ministers, would serve as chairman of the new institution, the Bank for Foreign Economic Activity.

PROFIT: The Dollar, in Its Plunge, Doesn't Make a Loser of Everybody

(Continued from Page 1) huge debts in dollars could benefit from the dollar's fall if they had receipts in currencies that were now worth more, but few of them do. Mr. O'Brien and other economists said. The major debtor countries in Latin America do most of their business in dollars, and some of their currencies have fallen even faster than the dollar.

amount of their own currency, or taking losses. But many of them are hedging their foreign exchange positions to reduce the impact of the dollar's fall. Britain's Jaguar PLC car company, for example, which sells close to \$1 billion worth of cars a year in the United States, has made banking arrangements to ensure that virtually all the dollars it earns in the next year will be converted back to British pounds at the relatively advantageous rate of \$1.54 to the pound, although a pound costs over 30 cents more at current market rates.

The most clearcut beneficiaries of the cheap dollar are the foreign tourists, who are expected to flock to the United States in record numbers in the coming months. Thomas Cook, one of Europe's leading travel agents, said that there was a "tremendous upsurge" of vacation bookings to the United States and the Caribbean, where prices are generally negotiated in dollars. Many travel companies offering U.S. vacations are now cutting prices, or offering rebates, to increase the volume of their business.

But those profiting from the dollar's woes can still come unstuck. Many of those selling the dollar forward have lost money, said one international economist, because they underestimated how far it would actually fall. Analysis, however, discounted much of the price increase. They noted that while sales were dropping in the South and Midwest, new-home purchases shot up 37.1 percent in the Northeast, the region with the highest home prices. Analysts said the weakness in sales probably reflected worries about the downturn in stock prices and with concern over the volatility of mortgage rates. Mortgage rates rose sharply just before the stock market collapse, only to decline in the weeks immediately following Oct. 19 as the Federal Reserve pumped money into the economy. In recent weeks, mortgage rates have once again started rising.

INDEX: Gauge of U.S. Economy Fell 1.7% in November

(Continued from Page 1) down in growth of the money supply, changes in raw materials prices, a rise in unemployment claims, a decline in the length of the manufacturing work week and a fall in contracts and orders for plant and equipment. Two indicators made positive contributions. Increases were reported in orders for consumer goods and building permits. Economists were split on whether the index is signaling a recession. "It is certainly flashing a warning sign, but I am not ready to call a recession yet," said David Wyss of Data Resources Inc. of Lexington, Massachusetts. "I think we have a slowdown coming, and the chance that it could turn into a recession is certainly there."

Mr. Wyss predicted that growth in the U.S. economy, as measured by the gross national product, would slow to a weak 1.6 percent annual rate next year, down substantially from the 3.7 percent annual rate posted for the first nine months of this year. The Reagan administration, issuing its most pessimistic forecast since 1981, predicted last week that GNP growth would slow to 2.4 percent in 1988. In its report on home sales, the Commerce Department said that new single-family dwellings were sold at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 664,000 units in November, down from a revised rate of 672,000 units in October. The 1.2 percent drop was accompanied by a big increase in prices. The median price of a new home

jumped 12.3 percent to \$119,000 last month, compared with \$105,000 in October. Analysts, however, discounted much of the price increase. They noted that while sales were dropping in the South and Midwest, new-home purchases shot up 37.1 percent in the Northeast, the region with the highest home prices. Analysts said the weakness in sales probably reflected worries about the downturn in stock prices and with concern over the volatility of mortgage rates. Mortgage rates rose sharply just before the stock market collapse, only to decline in the weeks immediately following Oct. 19 as the Federal Reserve pumped money into the economy. In recent weeks, mortgage rates have once again started rising.

Wednesday's OTC Prices. NASDAQ prices as of 4 p.m. New York time. This list, compiled by the AP, consists of the 1,000 most trading securities in terms of dollar volume.

Table of OTC prices for various stocks including A&W, ABC, AIG, etc. Columns include stock name, price, and change.

Table of stock prices for various companies including AMER, AMER, AMER, etc. Columns include stock name, price, and change.

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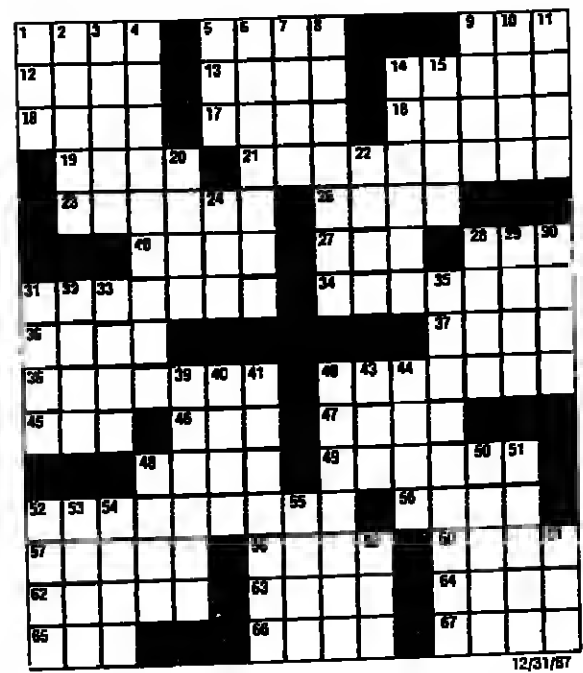
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Wednesday's AMEX Closing. Tables include the nationwide prices for the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Includes sections for AMEX High-Lows and AMEX High-Lows.

CFTC Scrutinizes Copper Market as Prices Skyrocket

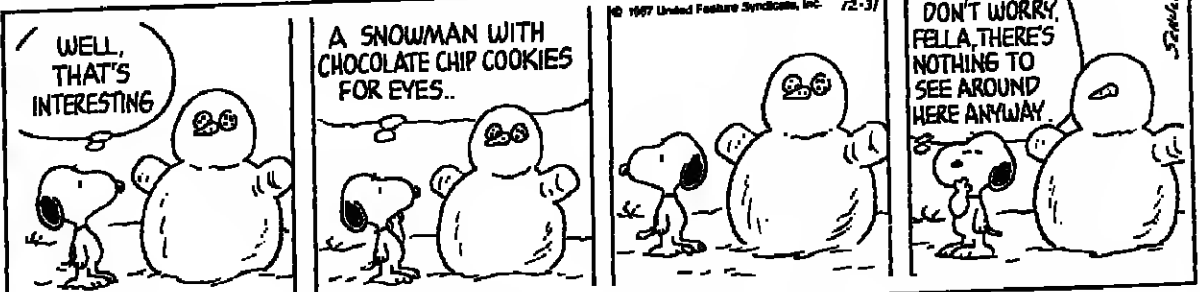
CHICAGO — The Commodity Futures Trading Commission has intensified its surveillance of the copper market since an impending shortage sent prices soaring, according to agency officials. "We're well aware of what is going on in the copper market, and we're working closely with the exchanges to continue monitoring it," said John R. Mielke, the commission's director of market surveillance. Although officials of the CFTC would neither confirm nor deny that it had begun a full-scale investigation of the copper market, Mr. Mielke said on Tuesday that the agency increased its surveillance last summer when prices began rising as supplies dwindled. A year ago, copper was selling for about 60 cents a pound. By November it had risen to about \$1.05 a pound. In recent days copper prices have touched \$1.40 a pound, approaching their highest levels since 1980. "Our principal concern is with the potential for price manipulation," Mr. Mielke said. But he declined to say whether the commission was looking into specific improprieties in the copper market. Terrence F. Martell, a senior vice president at the Commodity Exchange in New York, said, "We've seen no indication that prices are out of line with reality." The settlement price of the December contract, which expired Tuesday at the Comex, was \$1.36 a pound, off 0.75 cent, in light trading. "The December contract went off as quietly as a lamb," Mr. Martell said. The March futures contract closed at \$1.23 a pound, up 2.4 cents. The Comex, he said, has been cooperating with the CFTC since May to assure an orderly expiration of futures contracts as supplies shrink. Exchange officials said there were sufficient copper inventories in their warehouses to cover deliveries on the expiring December contracts. Mr. Martell said that the exchange might experience a "modest additional decline" in its copper inventory, but he said he believed inventory levels had approached their lows. The Comex has 18,925 tons of copper in its warehouses — enough to cover 1,514 contracts. By comparison, the exchange had more than four times as much inventory in October: 89,100 tons of copper, or enough to cover 7,128 contracts. The copper shortage is likely to continue through next summer, according to analysts. Supplies have fallen because many American copper producers — shaken by strikes, workforce reductions and factory shutdowns during the 1980s — have scaled back their production. The fact that copper prices were depressed until last summer also encouraged them to cut back. Now, as a result, the supply of copper has reached its lowest point since the early 1970s, analysts say. Worldwide copper consumption, however, grew 5.6 percent last year. In the first nine months of this year, copper consumption was higher than production, analysts have noted.



ACROSS
1 Simon's dividers
5 Desert regions
12 English rock duo
13 Burn or dribble
14 "Alphabet" synonym
16 Wool in Madrid
17 Where in Lind Guanantamo Bay
18 Fervor
19 Orustere cowboy's look
21 Something to punch
23 Comfort
25 Concoct or contrive
26 "A Life for the Garden figure
28 Scarle
31 Barbary Coast port
34 Delivers
38 Lifeline
39 Local
37 Toothily expression
38 Showed disdain
42 Vessel for Nelson
45 Monogram of a Duke
46 Author of "The College Widow"

© New York Times, edited by Eugene Malachuk.

PEANUTS



BLONDIE



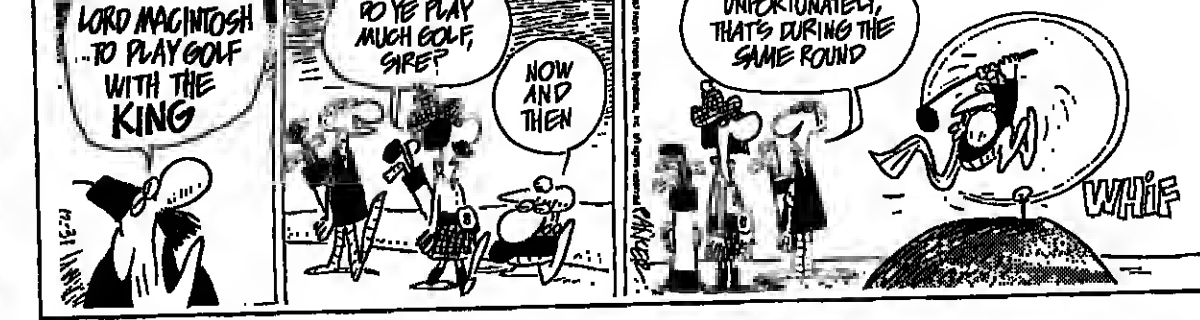
BEETLE BAILEY



ANDY CAPP



WIZARD OF ID



REX MORGAN



GARFIELD



World Stock Markets

Table with columns for various cities (Amsterdam, London, Frankfurt, etc.) and stock market data including indices and prices.

BOOKS

FROM COPYRIGHT TO COPPERFIELD: The Identity of Dickens
By Alexander Welsh. Illustrated. 200 pages. \$25. Harvard University Press, 79 Garden Street, Cambridge, Mass. 02138.

Reviewed by John Gross
JUST after his 12th birthday, Charles Dickens was sent to work in a factory, where he labored at menial tasks for the next four or five months.

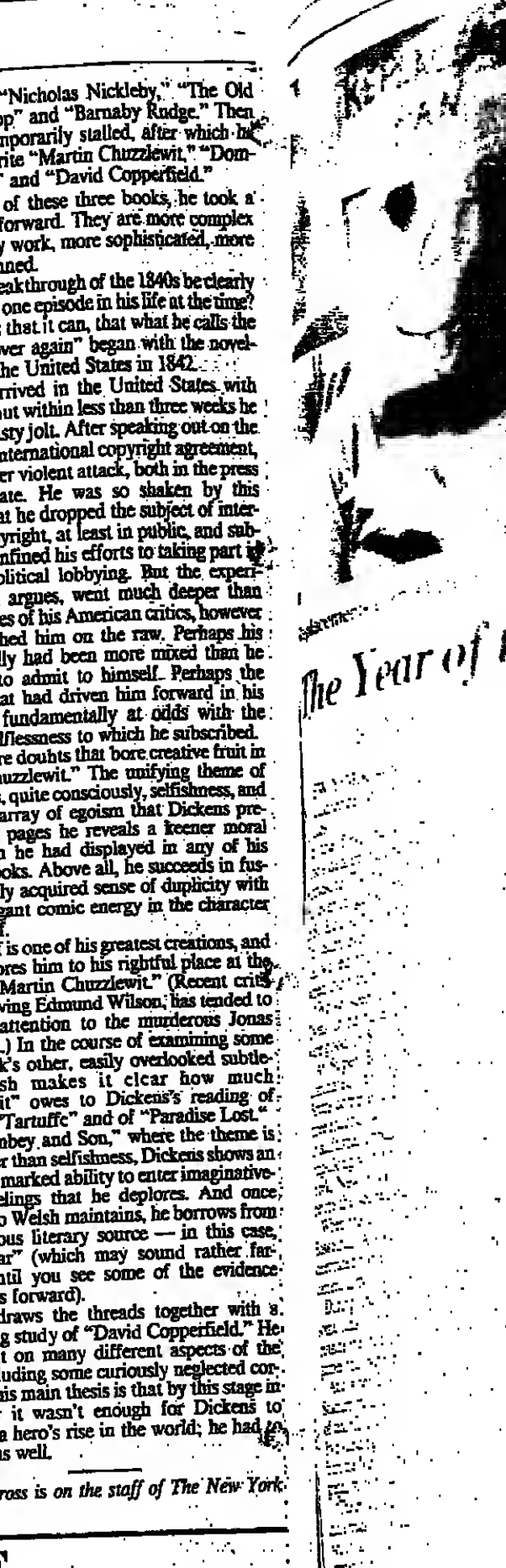
No episode in Dickens' life has been made more of by his modern critics and interpreters. They have seen it as inflicting scars that never wore off; and in doing so, as Alexander Welsh points out in "From Copyright to Copperfield," they are following a lead provided by Dickens himself.

The period on which he concentrates, running from 1842 to 1850, represents the decisive middle stretch of Dickens' career. Before that, while he was still in his 20s, the novelist had produced five major novels in astonishingly quick succession: "The Pickwick Papers," "Oliver Twist," "Nicholas Nickleby," "The Old Curiosity Shop" and "Barnaby Rudge."

Pecksniff is one of his greatest creations, and Welsh restores him to his rightful place at the center of "Martin Chuzzlewit." (Recent criticism, following Edmund Wilson, has tended to pay more attention to the murderous Jonas Chuzzlewit.)

In "Dombey and Son," where the theme is pride rather than selfishness, Dickens shows an even more marked ability to enter imaginatively into feelings that he deprecates. And once again, or so Welsh maintains, he borrows from an illustrious literary source — in this case, "King Lear" (which may sound rather far-fetched until you see some of the evidence: Welsh puts forward).

John Gross is on the staff of The New York Times.



The Year of the...

BRIDGE

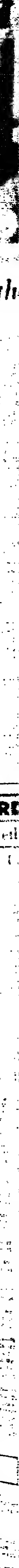
By Alan Truscott
THE New York bridge scene lost one of its great veterans when Herman Horowitz died in August just short of his 90th birthday.

Until a hearing problem forced him to retire from duplicate, Horowitz was consistently successful in tournament play. His last big victory, the Long Island Swiss Teams in 1980, made him, at 82, the oldest player to win a major regional title.

Dummy's losing diamond was thrown on the club ten, and West's trumps were removed at the finish.

Bridge score table with columns for North, South, East, West and various card suits.

World Stocks in Review
IN THE IHT EVERY MONDAY, A CONCISE OVERVIEW OF TRADING ON MAJOR WORLD STOCK MARKETS...



SPORTS

Of Rising Stars and Veterans
1987 Was the Year of Graf, Johnson, Leonard and Prost

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
LONDON — Veterans and youngsters alike flourished in 1987 sports as Steffi Graf gave women's tennis a fresh face at the top. Ben Johnson flashed into track history, Mike Tyson consolidated the heavyweight boxing titles and Alain Prost broke the longevity record for race drivers.

Lewis of the United States, the defending champion, matched the old world mark of 9.93, but was beaten by two strides. "This record is the best ever in the history of track, in all events," Johnson said. It was a drop of 1 percent in the world record time, incredible in a race so short and equivalent to trimming 2.26 seconds off the world mark for the mile.

Marina Navratilova in the French Open final. Navratilova, 31 and the top-ranked women's player the previous five years, handed Graf her only two defeats of the season, in the finals of Wimbledon and the U.S. Open.

But while fans were electrified by performances that stretched athletes' endurance and perseverance, drugs continued to haunt sports. Fan violence clung to soccer, especially in Europe. Aod efforts to settle a dispute between North Korea and South Korea over staging next summer's Olympics reached a stalemate.

Edwin Moses had his 400-meter hurdles streak ended at 122 victories by Danny Harris of the United States at a Madrid meet. And Said Aouita of Morocco established three world records: at 2,000 meters, 5,000 meters and 2 miles.

Navratilova was not the only veteran women's player to have a tough year. Chris Evert failed to win a Grand Slam title for the first time in 14 years and was eliminated in the first round of the Slims Final. Afterward, she said she was tired of being a tennis "gypsy" and, at 32, might be through as a full-time player.

Johnson, a sprinter with a staggering start, turned a late-summer Sunday in Rome into one of those sports events that become magical with age.

In the men's 100-meter final at the World Track and Field Championships, Johnson rocketed to a world-record 9.83 seconds. Carl

In boxing, Tyson was the top performer to a historic year. Already the youngest heavyweight champion after knocking out Trevor Berbick for the World Boxing Council crown late last year, he decided James (Bonecrusher) Smith for the World Boxing Association belt. Then he united the three major heavyweight titles for the first time in nearly 50 years with a decision over the International Boxing Federation champ, Tony Tucker.

Don Mattingly, the Yankee first baseman, hit a homer in eight consecutive games, tying Dale Long's 1936 record, and his six grand slams during the season, surpassing a major league record. But baseball drew a good deal of attention from the controversies involving the alleged but never proven "lively ball," the suspension of Billy Hatcher of the Astros for having used a corked bat, and the suspension of two pitchers: Joe Nickro of the Twins for having an emery board in his back pocket and Kevin Gross of the Phillies for having sandpaper in his glove.

The integrity of college football continued to be suspect. Southern Methodist University was banned from competing for two years after a National Collegiate Athletic Association investigation into various abuses. Ohio State dismissed Earle Bruce as coach after three consecutive losses even though he had an 81-26-1 career record. Columbia set a major college record for consecutive losses, 41, then acknowledged having admitted 11 players to its last two freshman classes who had not met minimum Ivy League academic standards.

Sugar Ray Leonard returned from a virtual five-year absence to dethrone the marvelous Marvin Hagler as the world middleweight champion in a 12-round split decision. At 30, Leonard had been stirred as much by the almost unanimous opinion of boxing devotees that "they never come back" as by his obsession with defeating the 32-year-old Hagler.



Ben Johnson, right, defeats Carl Lewis in the 100-meter.



Steffi Graf rose to first place in women's tennis rankings.

A major record in auto racing fell when France's Prost won his 29th Formula One Grand Prix race, breaking the career mark set by Jackie Stewart.

British authorities agreed to extradite 25 Liverpool fans to Belgium to face manslaughter charges in the 1985 Heysel Stadium riots, in which 39 people died. Trial on those charges is expected early next year.

In another, slower form of racing, the America's Cup became America's again. Dennis Connor, who lost the cup in 1983, won it back as his Stars & Stripes defeated Australia's Kookaburra III off Fremantle, Australia.

International sports federations announced new steps to eliminate drug use. One of the strongest crackdowns came from the International Amateur Athletics Federation, track and field's governing body, which included automatic lifetime bans without appeal for repeat offenders.

North Korea and South Korea were dejected over the North's demands to co-host the 1988 Olympics. In the first joint meeting on the demand in more than a year, the International Olympic Committee in July offered to add women's volleyball to an earlier list of four sports that would be moved to the North. The North said it also wanted the entire soccer tournament and later suggested direct talks with the South. Both requests were rejected.

As the year ended, the IOC's president, Juan Antonio Samaranch, said that he was confident that the Seoul Games would be free of boycotts and that nations that stayed away would be punished. (AP, NYT)

The Year of the Fan in U.S. Sports

By Dave Anderson
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — More than ever before, in 1987 the audience shared the sports stage with the athletes.

In the first indoor World Series, the Metrodome's deafening decibels were as important to the Minnesota Twins as Frank Viola's 4-2 victory in the seventh game. The Cardinals had swept three of the four home games, but when the Twins emerged as the first team ever to win its four home games, fans waved their white Homer Hankies and then wiped their tears of happiness.

"We've seen a lot of fans," Gary Gentry, the Twins' third baseman, told them later. "And they were good in St. Louis, but you blew 'em away." At Super Bowl XXI, the New York Giants dominated the Denver Broncos, 39-20, as Phil Simms completed 22 of 25 passes for 268 yards and three touchdowns. But the Giants, trailing by 10-9 at halftime, appeared to have been inspired by a sing-along with Frank Sinatra's recording of "New York, New York" by thousands of loyalists just before the second-half kickoff.

When the Los Angeles Lakers won the National Basketball Association championship, their most celebrated rooster, the actor Jack Nicholson, was on camera almost as much as Earvin Johnson. During the National Football League strike, some fans joined the players on the picket line outside the stadiums to protest the "replacement" games that were played.

And when Dought Gooden strode to the Shea Stadium mound for the first time after two months of rehabilitation from cocaine use, he was greeted by a standing ovation of hope and encouragement from the New York Mets parishioners in the congregation of 31,402.

The crowd was tremendous, it was great to hear those fans," Gooden said later. "The crowd turns you on, so you got to do it. You got to show your appreciation." Gooden produced a 15-7 record last season. But the Mets, with each of their other starting pitchers disabled at one time or another, never caught the Cardinals, who held on despite the absence of their only slugger, Jack Clark, in the final month. Then the Cardinals rallied to win the last two games of the National League Championship Series from

the San Francisco Giants, who finished first in the West for the first time since 1971.

During the 40th anniversary of Jackie Robinson's arrival as baseball's first black major-leaguer, his onetime teammate, Al Campanis, stunned the nation by saying that blacks lack the "necessities" to be managers and front-office executives. Campanis quickly resigned as the Dodger general manager and Commissioner Peter Ueberroth appointed Harry Edwards, a University of California professor, to hasten the hiring of minorities in those roles.

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In winning their third NBA title in six years, the Lakers dethroned the Celtics in six games. Johnson, the Lakers' 6-foot-9 (2-meter) guard, was voted the most valuable player of both the regular season and the playoffs. Michael Jordan of the Bulls had a 37.1 scoring average. After a long search, the New York Knicks hired Al Bianchi as general manager and Rick Pitino as coach. Harry Weitman, who took over as the New Jersey Nets' general manager, recently dismissed Dave Wohl as coach.

And Julius Erving of the Philadelphia 76ers slammed his last dunk, a retirement that was celebrated throughout the NBA.

SCOREBOARD

Basketball

NBA Standings table with columns for Eastern Conference and Central Division.

U.S. College Results

U.S. College Results table with columns for East and West divisions.

Football

NFL Final 1987 Regular-Season Leaders table with columns for American and National Football Conference.

Georgia Wins Liberty Bowl on Last-Minute Goal

MEMPHIS, Tennessee — Georgia appeared headed for its third bowl deadlock in four years until John Kassy connected on a 39-yard field goal as time expired to lift the Bulldogs to a 20-17 victory over Arkansas in the Liberty Bowl.

game. We've lost games in the last second recently, so it's good to win one in the same way," Dooley said. After escaping disaster when Trainer missed with 1:42 left, Georgia got yet another break.

Kassy's game-winning kick on Tuesday capped a 13-point Bulldog comeback that began when the freshman kicker hit a 24-yard field goal on the opening play of the fourth quarter.

Arkansas, which finished the year 9-4, forced the Bulldogs to punt and wanted to mount a last-gasp drive from their own 40-yard line.

The victory allowed Georgia, a member of the Southeastern Conference, to finish 9-3 for the season. It was the Bulldogs' first bowl victory since a 10-9 decision over Texas in the 1984 Cotton Bowl.

Four plays later Kassy sent the Bulldogs home a Liberty Bowl winner. Kassy, who had hit only one of two field goal attempts during the regular season, was given placekicker duties for the Liberty Bowl after Steve Crumley, a junior, was

Hockey

NHL Standings

NHL Standings table with columns for Patrick and Adams Divisions.

Hockey

NHL Standings

NHL Standings table with columns for Campbell and Norris Divisions.

Hockey

NHL Standings

NHL Standings table with columns for Smyth and Norris Divisions.

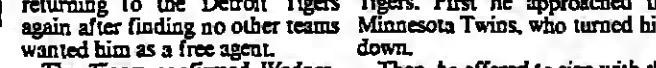
No Luck as a Free Agent, Morris Re-Signs With Tigers

NEW YORK — Jack Morris is returning to the Detroit Tigers after finding no other teams wanted him as a free agent.

Skier Orders To Return Medal

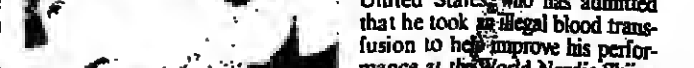
DENVER — Henry Lynch of the United States, who has admitted that he took an illegal blood transfusion to help improve his performance at the World Nordic Skiing Championships in West Germany in February, has been sanctioned by the American Ski Federation and ordered to return his silver medal to the International Federation.

Jack Morris



Jack Morris

Jack Morris



Jack Morris

Transition

Transition text regarding sports news and updates.

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED (Continued from Back Page) - ESCORTS & GUIDES, LONDON BELGRAVIA, CAPRICE-NY, AMSTERDAM 2000, MAYFAIR CLUB, ARISTOCATS.

ART BUCHWALD

What They Meant to Say

WASHINGTON—Many people said things in 1987 they now regret. This is what they should have said to avoid getting into so much trouble.

NANCY REAGAN (to Raisa Gorbachev)—"I'm all tied up this week, so I'll leave the key under the doormat. If you want to see the house just go in and have a look around."

OLLIE NORTH—"I will have nothing to do with a covert operation which bypasses Congress and the State Department. I did not do a Marine uniform to sell arms to moderate Iranians."

ADMIRAL POINDEXTER—"This information is too important for me to make a decision by myself. I'm going to have to show it to the president, and let him take the heat."

GARY HART—"Everybody is making such a big deal of me being on the Monkey Business when it went to Bimal. What if I told you I was seaisak the entire time?"

IVAN BOESKY—"The only reason I deal in inside information was to help the Hopi Indians."

ARIZONA GOVERNOR MECHAM—"I have been accused of being a bigot and a racist. It's all rubbish. When I tell a story about a Pullman car porter and a kosher butcher who tried to steal a blanket from a drunken Mexican in a Polish neighborhood, I am paying honor to all nationalities and races who have made this country great."

JIM BAKKER—"Tammy and I intend to retire from the ministry and devote our lives to appearing on Ted Koppel's show."

JESSICA HAHN—"When Jimmy did these terrible things to me I cried my eyes out until this nice man from Playboy magazine drove me to his home and took beautiful pictures of me in the shower for which I received a generous fee."

SENATOR BIDEN—"Plagiarizing is a dirty business but somebody has to do it."

JUDGE BORK—"In answer to the question, Senator, I am only required to give my name, rank and serial number."

JUDGE GINSBURG—"Freedom of speech doesn't give anyone the right to yell 'Grass' in a crowded movie theater."

DONALD TRUMP—"I'm sick of my name and would change it to Hartpence tomorrow if it would help me sell condominiums."

FAWN HALL—"Ollie liked to see me shred confidential papers late at night, and that's why I never got married."

MIKHAIL GORBACHEV—"The next time President Reagan wants me to explain the hitherto on top of my head I'm going to explain him what that stupid hearing aid is doing in his ear."

RONALD REAGAN—"I don't like pardons, but what else can I do for a team player whose only crime was that he broke the law?"

ED MEESSE—"Some people prefer to attend football games. I'd rather appear before grand juries."

MIKE DEEVER—"I swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth so help me God. And I'd like to make that retroactive."

BORIS YELTSIN—"If I had to do glasnost all over again I'd drop all references to Mr. Big."

KURT WALDHEIM—"The only thing I did when I was an officer for the Third Reich was drive an ambulance distributing blood to Yugoslav partisans and candy to Greek children."

POPE JOHN PAUL II—"Mr. Waldheim, I think you have the wrong pope."

JOHN MCENROE—"I believe in finishing unruly tennis players because it gives the rest of us a chance to play the game the way gentlemen are supposed to play it."

Putting a Tiger Into Chinese Filmmaking

By Edward A. Gargan

New York Times Service

XIAN, China—One day in October 1983, Wu Tianming walked onto the stage of the Xian Film Studio auditorium and looked out over the 4,000 faces that he was to manage as the new studio chief. This is what he told them:

"This is the largest film studio in the country. Last year the Xian Film Studio produced more movies than any other film studio in the country. However, the Xian Film Studio did not have a single movie on the list of the world's 10 best movies. Instead, on the list of the world's seven worst movies, three of them were ours. Isn't this disgraceful? Of course it's disgraceful. When you walk down the street with a round metal film canister, you are embarrassed to let anyone glimpse the lettering on the can for fear they will know that you belong to this studio."

Since that day, Wu, an intense, compactly built chain smoker, has transformed the Xian studio into a haven for China's most daring and innovative filmmakers, a place where the abstract is more apparent than the tired didacticism of most Chinese movies. The heroic fighters of the Red Army don't storm the redoubts of reactionary lackeys here. It has not, Wu declares, been an easy road.

"I took me a month to figure out the problems of this place," he said, slouching in a red velvet-covered armchair during a recent interview. "The main problem was the quality of the workers. Only 8 percent of the workers had college degrees and only 10 percent were secondary school graduates. Half the people here didn't know how to read or write. If you don't have people with any culture, how can you expect to make films?"

"The other big problem was that the administration of the studio was terrible. Eating from one big pot made everybody lazy."

"To eat from one pot," an expression that has come to characterize the debilitating effect of socialist egalitarianism, refers to the idea that everybody eats whether they work or not. "The working style of the employees," Wu noted with



Xian studio chief Wu: "This is the time for China to produce great creations."

a pronounced edge of sarcasm, "was quite relaxed."

Over the resistance of the entrenched Communist Party bureaucrats in the studio and the lethargy of the work force, Wu began to rebuild the studio. Employees were sent back to high school and some to college. English courses were instituted. Wu steeped himself and his leading directors, actors and film crews in the ways of northwest China, the gullied and terraced Loess Plateau that has become the canvas for his cinematography.

"We organized trips up the Yellow River," Wu explained. "We had more than 10 actors and directors in the first batch. They saw some of the best parts of Chinese culture and they saw lots of backward parts of China."

The desperate poverty of this northern steppe formed the backdrop for "Yellow Earth," a movie by the young director Chen Kaige about the meeting of rural society and the ideology of guerrilla communism in the late 1930s. The

release of the movie in Hong Kong in March 1985 was hailed by foreign critics as the blossoming of a new age of Chinese films and the emergence of the so-called "fifth generation" of filmmakers, a group of young directors trained in Beijing after the Cultural Revolution. At the same time, the film was denounced by the cultural bureaucrats of Beijing, who complained that it glorified ignorance and poverty, that it demeaned the "revolutionary ardor" of the era, that it was, in the final analysis, too hard to understand.

The new generation of directors has gravitated to the Xian Studio, drawn by the surly determination of the 48-year-old Wu that good films are made by directors who have the freedom to experiment, to challenge the orthodoxy that has so long regulated the arts in China and, perhaps more importantly, even to fail.

"Some Chinese criticize us," Wu said. "They think that films like 'In the Wild Mountains' and 'The Old Well' win praise in inter-

national film festivals because some foreigners relish the depiction of backwardness in the northwest. This is a misunderstanding. We reflect the things of this region, not to show backwardness per se, but to show what sort of burdens the people of the northwest bear, what sort of difficulties they face."

Both "In the Wild Mountains," directed by the young filmmaker Yan Xueshu, and "The Old Well," directed by Wu, broadly treat the manner in which the staid, almost petrified social culture of the northwest responds to the influence of the world beyond the village, beyond the confines of a single valley. Both films focus intensely on individual emotions and behavior, not in a formulaic or stylized fashion, but by capturing the mosaic of rural life, its gruffness, its preoccupation with the quotidian, and most troubling to Communist critics, its insularity.

A recent Xian film, "The Horse Thief," depicting the expulsion of a Tibetan from his nomadic vil-

lage for stealing horses contains almost no sustained dialogue—just the clipped exchanges of domestic life. The film's very abstractness ensured that it would never be released for Chinese audiences. Instead, the film, a cinematographically vibrant collage of the Tibetan highlands, was circulated to film societies abroad. "We only made 14 copies of 'The Horse Thief,'" Wu said. "That's almost nothing. With most movies, we make more than 700 copies."

No film can be released in China without being cleared by the film review board in Beijing, the government agency that rules on what movies can be shown in public. The agency also can order changes in movies, as it has with many Xian Studio productions.

"Everything is done by the whim of a few individuals," Wu said. "It's the attitude of the highest official that counts."

"We have had setbacks," he continued. Several recent films have been modified at the direction of the review board, he said, including Chen Kaige's "Big Parade," a movie about a parade drill team. "In the Wild Mountains" and Huang Jianxin's "Black Cannon Incident," a picture that explores the psyche of traditional China through an incident in a modern engineering project.

Nonetheless, he is confident that his vision, and that of his directors, will persevere.

"In recent years China has changed," he said. "There is greater freedom in literature and art. This is the time for China to produce great creations. Only by giving these directors greater creative freedom can they produce better films, by not telling them what to do. There is a saying in Chinese, 'If there is no tiger in the mountains, the monkey will be king.' These young directors will be our kings."

He is not dismayed by the critics in the Chinese press who assail his work as incomprehensible, or worse, politically suspect. "I'm extremely happy about bad reviews," he said, a wicked grin skewering his face. "If a film prompts people to criticize it, then it means they're paying attention."

An Inspiring List of 10, Well, Actually 9, People

Pope John Paul II and Elizabeth Taylor head a list of the year's "10 Most Inspiring People" in the Millennium Society's fourth annual awards. Actually, the society, a group formed in 1979 by Yale University students to mark the year 2000, only voted for nine people. The 10th is the U.S. Constitution. The other people are the Nobel Peace Prize winner Oscar Arias, the singer Paul Simon, the basketball player Julius Erving, the oceanographer Jacques Cousteau, the Harlem charity worker Mother Love, the Canadian runner Rick Hansen and Jessica McClure, the toddler rescued from a Texas well.

Art Blakey, Lionel Hampton and Billy Taylor have been awarded National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Masters Fellowships for their contributions to jazz in the African American tradition. They each will receive \$20,000 to support a project of their choice.

The rock star Prince is throwing an invitation-only New Year's Eve concert and party to raise money for Minnesota's homeless. Three hundred people are being invited to the \$200-a-plate bash, a Prince publicity said Tuesday. It will be held at Prince's new Paisley Park studio in Chanhassen, Minnesota, a suburb of Minneapolis. Proceeds will go to the Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless.

Gerald D. Crowley, who rescued a police officer from attackers, said he is splitting a \$2,500 Carnegie Hero grant with the officer. "I helped someone this one time and I'm getting all the awards. He hasn't gotten anything and he does this every day," said Crowley, who was among 112 Americans and Canadians to receive the award this year. He was honored last week with the grant and a bronze medal for helping David Poole of Holyoke, Massachusetts, in a May 1986 scuffle at an amusement park. A crowd had surrounded Poole and was shouting "Kill the pig!" when Crowley tackled a 200-pound man who tried to take Poole's gun from his holster. The assailant escaped, and tried to run over Crowley with a car. Another attacker was arrested after Crowley tackled him. Both were sentenced for beating Poole.

'Peter Pan' Royalties End

LONDON—On New Year's Day, the copyright of "Peter Pan" expires—and with it the royalties that the author J.M. Barrie bequeathed to the Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, stipulating that the exact amount must never be divulged.

INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE MARKETPLACE. Appears on page 11.

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